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REPORTS

FROM

COMMITTEES:

SIXTEEN VOLUMES.

—*(7.)*—

GAOLS,

REPORTS FROM THE LORDS.

Session

19 *February* —— 10 *September* 1835.

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1835.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS:

1835.

SIXTEEN VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

SEVENTH VOLUME.

N. B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

PRISONS:

438. FIRST REPORT from the SELECT COMMITTEE of the HOUSE OF LORDS appointed to inquire into the present State of the Several GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION in *England* and *Wales*; MINUTES of EVIDENCE and APPENDIX - - - - - - - - p. 1

439. SECOND REPORT from the COMMITTEE of the HOUSE OF LORDS on GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION, in *England* and *Wales* - p. 495

PRISONS:

FIRST REPORT - - - - - - - - - p. 1

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - p. 5

APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - p. 319

SECOND REPORT - - - - - - - - - p. 495

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - p. 503

APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - p. 589

Brought from the Lords, 28 July 1835.

FIRST REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO

THE PRESENT STATE

OF THE SEVERAL

GAOLS AND HOUSES OF CORRECTION

IN

ENGLAND AND WALES;

WITH

THE MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

AND

AN APPENDIX.

Ordered to be printed 12th May 1835.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
28 *July* 1835.

REPORT - - - - - - - - - - - - p. iii

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - :

APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - (1)

FIRST REPORT.

BY THE LORDS COMMITTEES appointed a Select Committee for the Purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon the present State of the several Gaols and Houses of Correction in the Counties, Cities, and Corporate Towns within England and Wales; upon the Rules and Discipline therein established with regard to the Treatment of unconvicted as well as convicted Persons; and also whether the Sentences under which convicted Prisoners are confined are or can be therein properly or efficiently carried into execution; and further to report whether any and what Alterations appear to be necessary in the Laws now in force for the Government and Regulation or in the Construction of such Gaols and Houses of Correction, in order to insure an Uniformity of Discipline throughout the whole, as well as the proper and efficient Execution of such Sentences; and to whom Leave was given to report from Time to Time to the House; and to whom were referred certain Papers in relation to the Subject before the Committee;

ORDERED TO REPORT,

THAT the Committee have met, and have proceeded to examine into the Subject which has been referred to them; and although they have not yet been able to bring their Inquiries to a Close, they think it their Duty not to defer laying before the House their Opinion on Parts of the Evidence which has been brought before them, and on Circumstances which call for the immediate Attention of the Legislature.

They have personally inspected the Prisons in this Metropolis and its Neighbourhood, and have examined several of the Visiting Magistrates, Chaplains, and Officers of those and other Prisons in various Parts of the Country, and whilst they have Satisfaction in believing that some of our Prisons have of late been much improved, yet they cannot refrain from expressing their decided Opinion that Imprisonment in Newgate, Giltspur Street, and the Borough Compter, in their present Condition, must have the effect of corrupting the Morals of their Inmates, and manifestly tend to the Extension rather than to the Suppression of Crime.

With respect to the Prisons under the Provisions of the 5th Geo. 4. Cap. 85. the Committee having found, upon the Examination of the proper Officer of the Secretary of State's Department, that the Returns required by that Act have not been regularly made, defer reporting further upon that Subject until such Returns shall have been obtained.

The

The Committee have come to the following Resolutions, which they earnestly recommend to the immediate Attention of the House:

1st. That it is expedient that One uniform System of Prison Discipline be established in every Gaol and House of Correction in England and Wales.

2d. That, for the sake of securing Uniformity of Discipline, it is expedient that the Rules and Regulations of the Gaols shall in future be submitted to the Secretary of State for his Approval, instead of, as at present, to the Judges of Assize.

3d. That Inspectors of Prisons be appointed to visit the Prisons from Time to Time, and to report to the Secretary of State.

4th. That entire Separation, except during the Hours of Labour and of Religious Worship and Instruction, is absolutely necessary for preventing Contamination, and for securing a proper System of Prison Discipline.

5th. That Silence be enforced, so as to prevent all Communication between Prisoners both before and after Trial.

6th. That Persons whose Trials have been postponed, or who, having been tried, have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, shall not be confined in the Gaols or Houses of Correction.

The Attention of the Committee having been directed to the Condition of the Gaols in Scotland, both by the Representation of some of the Members composing it, and by the Report from the Counties and Burghs in Scotland made in pursuance of 10 Geo. 4, Cap. 54., and referred to the Committee by Order of the House, the Committee regret that they are not enabled to enter into a further Examination on this Subject in consequence of the Inquiries of the Committee by the Order of Reference being limited to England and Wales. They have, therefore, requested the Lord in the Chair to move the House that the Inquiry into the State of Gaols should be extended to those in Scotland.

In concluding this their First Report, they beg to assure the House, that they will lose no Time in prosecuting their Inquiries into the several and important Branches of the Subject not specifically alluded to in this Report; but they have felt that no Time should be lost in communicating to the House Resolutions which, in their Opinion, should, without Delay, be embodied in a Bill for the immediate Consideration of the Legislature.

They beg to lay before the House the Evidence they have taken, together with an Appendix.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS,

APPOINTED

For the Purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon the present State of the several Gaols and Houses of Correction in the Counties, Cities, and Corporate Towns within England and Wales, upon the Rules and Discipline therein established with regard to the Treatment of unconvicted as well as convicted Persons, and also whether the Sentences under which convicted Prisoners are confined are or can be therein properly or efficiently carried into execution; and further to report whether any and what Alterations appear to be necessary in the Laws now in force for the Government and Regulation or in the Construction of such Gaols and Houses of Correction, in order to insure an Uniformity of Discipline throughout the whole, as well as the proper and efficient Execution of such Sentences; and to whom Leave was also given to report from Time to Time to the House.

Part I.

Ordered to be printed 31st March 1835.

(42.1.)

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Die Martis, 31° Martii 1835.

William Crawford, Esquire - - - - - p. 3

Die Mercurii, 1° Aprilis 1835.

Samuel Hoare, Esquire - - - - - p. 15

Mr. George Thomas Bullar - - - - - p. 30

Die Lunæ, 6° Aprilis 1835.

The Reverend Whitworth Russell - - - - p. 31

Die Veneris, 10° Aprilis 1835.

The Earl of Chichester - - - - p. 67

The Reverend John Ousby - - - - - p. 74

Mr. William Wadham Cope - - - - p. 77

Lieutenant Augustus F. Tracey, R. N. - - - p. 81

Die Sabbati, 11° Aprilis 1835.

Mr. George Laval Chesterton - - - - p. 89

Mrs. Rebecca Bourhill - - - - - p. 97

Mr. Charles Forss - - - - - - - p. 99

Mr. John Teague - - - - - - p. 100

Die Lunæ, 13° Aprilis 1835.

William Wright - - - - - - - p. 107

Die Jovis, 30° Aprilis 1835.

The Reverend Whitworth Russell - - - - p. 113

Die Veneris, 1° Maii 1835.

Sir James Williams - - - - - - - p. 123

Thomas Charles Higgins, Esquire - - - - p. 129

Lieutenant John Sibly, R. N. - - - - - p. 138

Mr. George Smith - - - - - p. 164

Mr. Thomas Clarkson Neale - - - - - p. 167

Die Martis, 5° Maii 1835.

William Seymour, Esquire - - - - p. 177

Mr. John Mance - - - - - - p. 191

The Reverend Joseph Mayo - - - - - p. 200

Mr. Thomas Haywood - - - - - p. 207

Mr. John Grant - - - - - - p. 210

Die Mercurii, 6° Maii 1835.

The Reverend James Brown - - - - - p. 217

Mr. John Keene - - - - - - p. 223

Mr. John Orridge - - - - - - p. 229

Mr. William Ritchie - - - - - - p. 237

Mr. Thomas Brutton - - - - - p. 239

Die Jovis, 7° Maii 1835.

Mr. John Grant - - - - - - p. 247

Sir Frederick Adair Roe - - - - - p. 248

Captain Benjamin Chapman - - - - - p. 253

Mr. James Sheriff - - - - - - p. 266

Mr. George Thomas Bullar - - - - p. 270

Mr. Richard Butler Brierley - - - - p. 271

Die Veneris, 8° Maii 1835.

John Henry Capper, Esquire - - - - - p. 275

Mr. James Sheriff - - - - - - p. 283

Richard B. Dean, Esquire - - - - p. 284

William Courtenay, Esquire - - - - - p. 285

Lord Carbery - - - - - - - p. 292

Mr. Thomas Agar - - - - - - p. 293

Die Lunæ, 11° Maii 1835.

Lieutenant John Sibly, R. N. - - - - - p. 299

Die Martis, 12° Maii 1835.

Mr. William Wadham Cope - - - - - - p. 303

Edward Ingall - - - - - - p. 310

Mr. Matthew Newman - - - - - - p. 313

Die Martis, 31° *Martii* 1835.

The LORD PRESIDENT in the Chair.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

You have lately returned from the United States where you went on a Mission from the Government to visit the different Penitentiaries and Gaols in that Country?
I have.

Do you conceive that enforcing Silence in Prisons is a good Plan?
I conceive it to be a very useful Plan, and an essential Improvement on the Discipline at present enforced in this Country.

You have visited several of the Gaols in this Country?
I have; and, with the Exception of Wakefield and Cold Bath Fields Houses of Correction Gaols, I have not found the Plan of Silence enforced. In the United States it is enforced to a very great Extent, and I think with very considerable Advantage.

Is it enforced in the United States on Persons previous to Trial?
It is not in the United States. The Gaols for Persons committed for Trial are universally in a very bad State. So strongly are the Inhabitants of Philadelphia impressed with the Necessity of some Alteration in this respect, that at the Time I left a Prison had been recently finished in which it was intended to confine Persons in Solitude before Trial. Solitary Confinement is a very favourite Plan of Prison Discipline in Pensylvania, and the Authorities in that State are convinced that the Plan has been effectual in the Penitentiary. In Philadelphia it is proposed to place the Prisoner on his Arrival in a Cell, and not to allow him to leave it until the Day of Trial, not even for the Purposes of Air or Exercise. The Solitude is mitigated by Visits from his Friends, by the Use of Books, and by the occasional Visits of the Officers of the Prison.

In the House of Correction at Wakefield the Prisoners before Trial are not permitted to converse one with another?
There are very few Prisoners before Trial in the House of Correction at Wakefield; they are principally Persons convicted summarily by the Magistrates; but Silence prevails throughout the House of Correction at Wakefield in the Male Part of the Prison. When I visited this Prison it was not enforced in regard to Female Prisoners.

Do you know the Feeling of the Prisoners upon that Regulation?
I understood that they dreaded Silence very much, and great Hopes were entertained that the Effect of it would be a considerable Diminution in the Number of Crimes.

Do you think that if the Plan for enforcing Silence was adopted generally in the Gaols of this Country, that the Term of Imprisonment might be shortened?
I think it might.

Would that be a great Advantage?
A very great Advantage.

Would not that lead to a better Classification?
No Doubt it would.

William Crawford, Esq.

And supersede in a great Measure the Necessity of Classification?
No Doubt it would. In fact, Silence is an Approximation to Solitude; but there is a strong Feeling in some Parts of America that Silence, even when enforced very strictly, is not effectual. In the Penitentiary no Prisoner is committed under a Period of Twelve Months; and even where Silence is maintained, by immediate personal Chastisement (and the Whip is used very freely in some of the Penitentiaries), still it is found that Men will return; and that Fact has led to a very strong Impression that nothing short of Solitude will have the Effect of deterring Men from the Commission of Crime. Still, next to Solitude, I should say that Silence is extremely valuable, and would be a very material Improvement in the Prisons of this Country.

Silence may be enforced in nearly every Gaol, though it may be very difficult in many of our Gaols to confine Persons in separate Cells?
Yes. The only Difficulty we should experience, I think, in this Country, in the Enforcement of Silence, would be the finding of Employment for Prisoners. I was told in America, as well as by the Gaoler at Wakefield, that it was impossible to enforce Silence without Employment; in fact, one of the greatest Punishments that he could inflict upon the Men was to take away their Labour. The Introduction of any Kind of Employment in an Agricultural District is attended with very great Difficulty.

You are aware that the present System of Prison Discipline in this Country varies in nearly every Gaol?
There are scarcely Two Gaols alike; the Want of Uniformity is very striking, and very often in adjoining Counties. This Fact perhaps could not be more strikingly illustrated than in this very Metropolis. A Person committed in the City of London within the Jurisdiction of the City would be committed to the Giltspur Street House of Correction, where it is true there is Employment, but it can scarcely be called hard Labour; whereas a very short Distance would take him into the Jurisdiction of the County, where he would be committed to Cold Bath Fields Prison, where he would be subjected to hard Labour on the Tread-mill, and the strict Enforcement of Silence.

You are aware of the Provisions of the present Act called the Gaol Act?
I am.

Can you give any Suggestions for the Improvement of that Act?
I think the Clause which lays down a certain Scale of Classification, generally speaking, is extremely useless; and if it were superseded by Regulations which enforced Solitude and Silence, the Alteration would be a very great Improvement.

Could Solitude be carried into execution in many of the Gaols?
It would involve considerable Expense; that appears to me to be the only Difficulty.

The Erection of new Gaols?
The Erection of new Cells.

Is there any other Part of the Act which you think might be amended?
I have not looked over the Act expressly with a view to its Amendment, but I have no Doubt that I should be able to suggest many Parts of the present Law which might be essentially improved. We have had considerable Experience in this Country, in addition to that in the United States. Since that Act was framed there is a general Laxity of Discipline in the Admission of Letters to Prisoners, and the Intercourse with Friends,—Indulgences which are denied in the Penitentiaries in the United States, and the Prohibition of which is felt as a great Punishment. These Prohibitions I think might be introduced with Advantage into the Prisons of this Country.

You refer to Persons after Trial?
Yes.

You do not propose it to extend to Prisoners before Trial?
Certainly not.

William Crawford Esq.

In many of the Prisons of this Country the Prisoners are permitted to smoke, and to receive more than the Gaol Allowance?
Certainly.

Do you not think that it is contrary to Principle to permit a Prisoner under Sentence, because he is not poor, to be better off than another Prisoner who is perhaps not so great a Scoundrel as the richer one?
Yes, and essentially diminishing the Efficacy of the Punishment.

In America, in a great many of the Gaols, they have no Chaplain?
With the Exception of those in New England and New York, there are no Chaplains officially attached to any of the Gaols. Gratuitous Services are performed by Clergymen in the City, who generally take the Duty in rotation, but there is no systematic Course of religious Instruction.

Are you not of opinion it is indispensable there should be Chaplains to Gaols?
Certainly; most indispensable.

Do you not think they ought to devote the whole of their Time to the Gaols?
Most assuredly.

In most Cases in this Country the Chaplains devote only a Portion of their Time, having other Duty?
Yes; there is a great Difference in Gaols; in some Prayers are read but twice a Week, in others they are read daily.

Have you visited the Penitentiary at Millbank?
I have.

Do you believe that System has done much Good?
I do not consider that it has; I think the Separation and Seclusion has been so very imperfect that I very much question whether any national Benefit has arisen from the Establishment of that Prison.

Are you aware that in other Gaols in England there are a great Number of juvenile Offenders committed for very trifling Offences?
A very great Number, particularly in the Manufacturing Districts and large Towns.

Do they not come out of Gaol much worse than when they went in?
Uniformly.

Is that the Case in America?
There are very few juvenile Offenders. The Penitentiaries in America, the Houses of Refuge established in the different Cities, generally receive them.

Do they reform them generally in your Opinion?
It is very difficult to answer that Question. The Facility which is found in America for the Disposal of Lads of that Description after they leave the Houses of Refuge presents a very great Advantage over us in this Country.

Are those private or public Establishments?
Public. A Sum of Money is generally granted by the Legislature, and the Institution is otherwise supported by private Subscriptions.

They are acknowledged by Law?
Recognized by the Law, and very extraordinary Powers given. A Boy accused of a mere Act of Vagrancy, and taken before a Magistrate, can be committed to one of those Houses of Refuge, and confined therein during his Minority. That is seldom the Case, because generally the Managers are anxious to provide for the Boys, in order to admit other Objects; but the Law gives the Power of Detention, and in fact supersedes the Authority of Parents.

Are those Managers public Officers, or Persons chosen by the Subscribers?
Chosen generally by the Subscribers annually, and recognized by the Legislature.

Do you not believe that if there was a Tribunal established for the Trial of juvenile Offenders and minor Offences, with a Power of corporal Punishment, it would prevent the Necessity of committing many Boys to Gaol?
I think it would. Whatever would tend to shorten the Period for which Boys are now confined in Prisons would be of essential Advantage.

William Crawford, Esq.

What is your Opinion as to the taking Bail for many more Offences than the Law now authorizes?

I think many Persons might be saved the Pain and Injury of being committed to Prison, if the Magistrates were authorized to take Bail for small Amounts. A Commitment to Prison is a very serious Affair to a poor Man; it very often entails Ruin not only upon himself but his Family. There are many Instances in which a Man's Neighbours would be willing to present themselves as Bail.

Should there not be some less expensive Means of recovering the Amount of Bail than there are at present?

I think that very important.

Would you see any Objection to allowing the Magistrates to recover the Amount of Bail by a summary Proceeding?

No; I think there would often be no Difficulty in a Man obtaining reputable Bail. The Character of the Parties might be certified by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Parish. Even in the poorest Neighbourhoods such Bail might be found in Cases of minor Offences, and where the Temptation to escape Punishment is not great.

And where the Man is not a Stranger to the Place, and is of good Character?

Just so.

Do you not think there would be more Difficulty in getting Persons to be Bail than in permitting the Magistrates to take their Bail?

At present it is not thought of. If a Man knew that Bail of that Kind were likely to be accepted, I do not think that there would be much Difficulty experienced in occasionally obtaining it.

Should you recommend a more frequent Gaol Delivery,—an intermediate Sessions?

I think that is very important; and I should also strongly recommend (though there are Difficulties in the Way) more frequent Gaol Delivery for capital Offenders by a more frequent Assize.

What is the Case, in these respects, in America?

It is very much the Case as it is in this Country, but there is a great Variety in this respect in the different States. In fact, if the Plan which is intended to be pursued in Philadelphia be followed up, viz. that of confining Persons before Trial in Solitude, more frequent Gaol Delivery is absolutely indispensable to avert the Hardship of it.

How frequently are the Gaol Deliveries at Philadelphia?

I believe Three Times in the Year.

Nothing analogous to our Sessions?

They have Quarter Sessions. I was speaking of the Assizes.

Can you speak of the Proportion of Convictions to the Number of Commitments in America?

I cannot precisely; it varies essentially.

Do not you think Solitude very long continued may affect the Mind?

I have conversed with a Number of Persons who have been confined in Solitude in the Penitentiary at Philadelphia for Four Years, and where the Solitude is perfect, and I have never discovered in any single Case that the Seclusion has affected the Mind or Reason.

The Question refers to Solitude without Permission to read, write, or speak?

I will describe the Kind of Solitude which is enforced in Philadelphia. On the Admission of a Prisoner he is placed in a roomy Cell, and after a Time a Bible is given him. He is not allowed to have any Intercourse with his Friends, but is generally visited Three Times a Day by one of the Turnkeys with his Meals, and occasionally by the Trade Overseers. This is the only Opportunity which the Prisoner has Day after Day of conversing with any one.

Is

William Crawford, Esq.

Is he allowed to speak with the Turnkey?
He is. There are certain Authorities officially appointed to visit the Prison; but that is the ordinary Routine of Prison Regulation.

Is there a Chaplain?
There is no Chaplain at Philadelphia. On Sundays when Service is performed the Chaplain visits a certain Number of the Prisoners in their Cells.

In some Cases these Visits are at very long Intervals?
Yes.

Are not the gratuitous Services you mentioned just now performed with great Zeal in many Cases, and great Anxiety on the Part of the Person attending?
I think they are.

Is not that the Case at Sing Sing?
At Sing Sing there is an official Chaplain, and also at Auburn, paid by the State.

He cannot go to all the Prisoners above once in Eight Months, can he?
It is impossible.

Do not the gratuitous Services come in aid of him much more frequently; are they not administered with great Zeal?
The Penitentiary at Sing Sing is differently situated from other Penitentiaries in America. It is about Twenty-five Miles from New York. There are no Opportunities of Clergymen visiting that Penitentiary, so that the Prisoners at Sing Sing are left entirely to the Attentions of the Chaplain of the Penitentiary.

Do you think that there is any Hope of reforming the Persons who are now confined, or of deterring others from committing Offences, unless there is an uniform System of Discipline established in the Gaols and Houses of Correction in this Country?
I think that is absolutely essential.

Without which a great Part of the Expense which the Country is now at is, in point of fact, thrown away?
Completely so.

The Salaries of the Officers in our Gaols are higher than they are in America, are they not?
Generally speaking, decidedly so.

So that we might have a better System without paying more for it than we pay now?
Certainly.

You have stated that you have seen Persons in Prison at Philadelphia under that Species of solitary Confinement to which you have referred who have been in that Situation Four Years; have you had any Opportunity of observing the Effect of a still stricter Species of solitary Confinement, affording them no Books or no Amusements of any Kind, nothing to divert the Mind?
I have not. The Discipline enforced in Philadelphia Penitentiary is by far the most strict of any in the United States. I have visited the House of Correction at Springfield, in which Persons are occasionally confined in Solitude without Employment for a certain Period; that appears to me to be far more severe.

Had you any Opportunity of judging of its Effect?
I have not seen any of the Prisoners so confined, but in Conversation with the Governor I did not learn that any injurious Effect had been produced either on the Health or Mind of the Prisoners, but he admitted that the Prisoners required to be constantly watched.

Do you see any Objection to the Adoption of that System more generally than it is now adopted, with proper Superintendence, if the Punishment is not carried too far?
None, but beginning with very short Periods. I think it would be very desirable to try it.

William Crawford, Esq.

Have you visited the House of Correction at Hertford in this Country?
No, I have not.

Was not, in the first instance, perfect Solitude without Employment tried at Philadelphia?
Yes. The Legislature determined to build a Prison. There were Two Parties belonging to the Committee appointed to consider the Nature of the Discipline to be enforced. One Party advocated very strongly solitary Confinement without Employment, the other was most urgent for the Introduction of Labour. The latter prevailed; so that, in point of fact, the System of Solitude without Labour never was actually enforced in Philadelphia.

Has it not been in some other Prisons?
In the Auburn Penitentiary, and I think in the State of Maine for a few Months; but the Cells were so small, and the Confinement was accompanied with so many other disadvantageous Circumstances, that no fair Inference could be drawn from such an Experiment.

In America whenever Employment is introduced it is almost always profitable?
That is generally so; I have not found it to be so in Philadelphia.

The Term of Imprisonment would appear to be calculated with a view to Profit other than that of proportioning it to the general and specific Nature of the Work?
That is my Impression. In Pensylvania there is an Exception. I think that in that State the Legislature looks to the Effect which the Punishment is calculated to produce in diminishing Crime, but in the New York Prisons and in the Western States I think the Authorities look quite as much to Profit as to any other Consideration.

Are the Punishments inflicted on summary Convictions before a Magistrate or Two Magistrates in America longer than in this Country?
No, for much about the same Periods; those Prisoners are sent, not to the Penitentiaries, but to the Gaols and Houses of Correction, than which nothing can be much worse.

Will you state your Opinion with regard to the Classification of Prisoners?
I think our Ideas of the Advantages of Classification are extremely fallacious. Take, for instance, Prisoners before Trial. The Law provides that Persons charged with Felonies shall be kept separate from Persons charged with Misdemeanors. There is frequently very little moral Distinction between those Classes of Offences; in point of fact, the Separation does not prevent corrupt Intercourse.

Is it not of constant Occurrence that very depraved Characters are committed for very small Offences?
Certainly.

Is it not impossible to prevent the Effect of their Influence in corrupting others under the present Regulations?
Impossible.

Under the present Regulations a Man who had been committed Four Times for Misdemeanors would be classified with the Misdemeanors, though he might be a much worse Character than the Man committed for a minor Felony?
Certainly.

A Man who has been convicted once of Felony, and has undergone his Punishment, under the present Law, if he was committed for a Misdemeanor, would be classed with the Men for Misdemeanors?
He would.

Is it your Opinion that much Good is derived from the Length of Confinement in America as to the future Character of the Individual confined?
I think that is likely to be the Case where the Party is kept in Solitude, as in the Philadelphia Penitentiary, provided religious Instruction were constantly administered.

Is it generally supposed to have that Effect?
The religious Instruction is so very imperfectly administered in that Penitentiary that the Advantages of this System of Imprisonment are not fully developed.

Is it your Opinion that Length of Confinement produces much Effect in the way of deterring others from the Commission of Crime? *William Crawford Esq.*
I think it does.

If the Confinement was more severe and shorter, would that produce equal Effect in deterring others from the Commission of Crime?
I think it would produce a stronger Impression in consequence of its Length. I should say, that when the Philadelphia Plan was determined on, the Legislature reduced the Periods of Imprisonment One Third in consideration of its increased Severity.

Has Crime increased in proportion?
Crime, I think, has increased in Pensylvania, but I really do not think that the Penitentiary has had much to do with that Circumstance. There are other Causes to which that Fact is to be ascribed, such as the Increase of Population.

Do the Returns exhibit a List of the summary Convictions for those minor Offences which have been punished by summary Jurisdiction?
No; they principally relate to the Penitentiaries. I was obliged in many Cases to take those Returns from the Prison Books; the Criminal Statistics of America are very imperfect.

You state that in your Opinion corporal Punishment is very beneficial to juvenile Offenders in reference to the Prevention of future Crime; it is inflicted to a great Extent in the United States, is it not?
Not in regard to juvenile Offenders. It is inflicted in most of the Penitentiaries in the United States as an ordinary Instrument of Prison Discipline to prevent Conversation.

In the Houses of Refuge it is practised, is it not?
It is also used in the Houses of Refuge. My Observations as to the Adoption of corporal Punishment would be confined entirely to juvenile Offenders; I think it would have a degrading Effect on Men.

So far as you have had an Opportunity of judging of it in America, what has been its Effect?
I think its Effect has been to harden, and to produce no moral Impressions of a beneficial Character.

Has it tended to prevent Persons coming again into Prisons?
That is not my Impression.

In your Report it would appear that corporal Punishment had been inflicted without any Check being imposed upon those whose Pleasure it was to inflict it by the Assistant Keepers?
Yes.

Merely with the Necessity of making a Report in the Evening?
In some Cases at Sing Sing they are not required to make any Report whatever.

So that there is nothing to prevent their giving a much smaller Account of the Number of Punishments than they have inflicted?
Just so.

It is, in fact, arbitrary Power placed in the Hands of the Keeper?
Yes, it is. The Keepers have admitted to me that their Lives would not be safe if they had not that arbitrary Power, having so many Men under them of the most desperate depraved Habits.

You have expressed an Opinion that Bail might be extended much further in this Country, with beneficial Effects; would there not be some Danger of the most notorious Offenders and the richest Individuals escaping Punishment altogether by the Forfeiture of their Bail?
My Observation was not intended to apply to the higher Class of Offenders or the great Crimes, but to Individuals committed on minor Charges who could produce Bail, the Character of which might be certified by the Parish Officers or other respectable Inhabitants.

William Crawford, Esq.

Would it be necessary to leave a discretionary Power in the Hands of committing Magistrates?

Certainly.

Does not that Power of taking Bail exist to a very great Extent now in minor Cases?

I believe the Power does exist, but certainly the Practice is not such as I have suggested.

Do you not conceive that the Practice of keeping in our Gaols insane Persons who have been acquitted by Juries is prejudicial to the general Discipline of the Gaols?

Extremely so, and very cruel as it regards the Lunatic, who is in general the Sport of the idle and depraved. I will furnish a List of the insane Persons in the different Gaols of this Country.

You think that Silence is less effectual than Solitude?

I do. I think that Silence should be resorted to where Solitude cannot be enforced on account of the Expense; but I think that there is nothing so terrible and so effectual in its Tendency to deter as Solitude.

Solitude infers Silence?

Certainly.

To what Extent would Silence be accompanied with Solitude in those Prisons where Solitude is not completely persevered in?

The Silence enforced at Auburn is in large Bodies of Prisoners, generally Forty to Fifty together in a Workshop. Silence is enforced there uniformly throughout the Day.

Is that the Case generally in the Prisons in America?

It is in most Cases. There are occasionally as many as Fifty or Sixty in a Room.

When the Silence is enforced, and not in a State of Solitude, is that done at the Meals, and is it done at Work, or is it done at any Time when there are neither Meals nor Work?

At all Times the Discipline is carried so far that a Prisoner dare not speak to an Officer or Turnkey.

What Mode is resorted to to enforce that Silence?

In the New York and most of the other Penitentiaries it is enforced by the Lash. Immediately that a Prisoner is detected speaking the Overseer beckons to him, and he is immediately flogged before the other Prisoners.

Is that found effectual?

It is found effectual in preventing Conversation; it is not found effectual in preventing Communication, for it has been admitted to me by the Keepers and by some of the Prisoners themselves that they do exchange Signs, but certainly Conversation is prevented.

Does the Order also extend to the preventing their exchanging Signs?

Certainly; any Kind of Communication.

Do they resort, for the Purpose of enforcing Silence, to any Alteration in the Diet?

None generally. One object in the American Penitentiaries is to get as much Profit out of the Prisoners as possible, and it is found that unless they are fed well they cannot work hard.

Then it is not done altogether for the Purpose of Prison Discipline, but of making the Machine more capable of Labour?

It is done very much with that View.

If Silence is enforced, you think that it is necessary to give them Employment to enable them to endure it?

Yes; I am satisfied of that by what I saw at Wakefield, where the Governor had tried but could not enforce Silence without constant Employment.

To what Extent do you think Silence would be effectual in point of Period, suppose it was not accompanied with Labour or with the Power of reading?

I am scarcely competent to answer that Question.

William Crawford, Esq.

Do you not conceive it would be much more severe?
Most assuredly.

You stated that in Agricultural Districts there is a Difficulty in finding Employment; is it not in some Prisons in this Country common to place Persons on the Wheel to keep Silence while they are upon it, and then to lock them up in their Cells?
I rather think my Observation applied to Prisoners before Trial, who could not be put on a Treadmill. I was very much struck with this Difficulty a short Time since at York Castle. The Governor is exceedingly anxious to effect Improvements in his Prison, and has tried all Means of introducing Employment, but he cannot find any Means of introducing Employment for them before Trial.

How are the Prisoners dieted in America; on a much higher Scale than in England?
Much higher. I think in Philadelphia it is about a Pound of Bread and Three Quarters of a Pound of Meat daily, besides Potatoes as much as they wish, and a Preparation of Indian Meal, very nourishing. At Sing Sing the Prisoners are allowed a Pound of Meat, besides Bread, Potatoes, &c., and I found that universally in the Western States the Prisoners are fed exceedingly well.

Is that, in your Opinion, very beneficial as a System of Punishment?
I think it is highly objectionable.

Have you seen any Observations with regard to the Degree of Mortality that exists in different Gaols in proportion to the System of Diet adopted?
Yes, I have.

Does that Return make in favour of low Diet or high?
The Return is in favour of low Diet, and I believe very mistaken Opinions are entertained upon that Subject. It has been the Custom in Devizes for some Years past to weigh Men on their Entrance and on their Discharge; now in that Prison they have no Animal Food, and the Men are uniformly found to weigh heavier on their Discharge.

The Situation of the Gaol at Devizes is very healthy?
Remarkably so.

Would it be possible to establish any uniform Scale of Diet without reference to Circumstances?
It would not be possible to establish precisely an uniform Scale in the Country, but some Approximation might be made towards Uniformity.

At all events, Prisoners who have been convicted might be prohibited receiving any Allowance but the Gaol Allowance?
Certainly.

That you think would be highly beneficial?
Certainly.

How is Silence maintained in the House of Correction at Wakefield?
By vigilant Inspection. After Breakfast, every Morning, the Punishments are awarded; the Parties who have been guilty of Offences on the preceding Day are examined, and the Governor generally places them in solitary Confinement, if found to deserve it.

Is not the Reduction of Food practised at Wakefield?
Yes.

Is not Silence an Exception to the general Rule in the Gaols and Houses of Correction in this Country?
Yes.

Even after Trial?
Yes; there is a Rule prohibiting Conversation, but I have scarcely ever found it strictly enforced.

Do you not think it desirable that there should be Inspectors of Prisons to visit the different Prisons in this Country, and to report to the Secretary of

William Crawford, Esq.

State whether the Rules and Regulations of those Prisons had been complied with?

I think it extremely important; I do not see how any Uniformity of System can be enforced without such an Appointment.

You would recommend that the best System should be established, and that then the Prisons should be visited by Inspectors to see that the Orders are carried into execution?

I should.

Do you not think that a better System of Gaol Discipline might have the Effect of preventing some Persons from being sent to Gaol, and at all events render it much more unlikely that they should come out of Gaol worse than when committed?

I do.

Is it not an undoubted Fact that many Hundreds of Persons now quit the Gaols much worse than when they entered them?

There is no Doubt of it.

Is that the Case in the American Gaols?

I think that is very much the Case there.

They must go out worse, if they communicate with Persons more depraved?

Yes.

Is that the Model of a Prison in America?

It is a Model of a Wing of the Philadelphia Penitentiary. (*The Witness explains the same to their Lordships.*) When the Prison was first erected it was proposed merely to have Cells on the Ground Floor, and Yards were appropriated to the Cells. It was impossible to erect Cells above without dispensing with Yards. This was considered a very bold Measure at first. The Cells on the Ground Floor are about Twelve Feet long, by Seven and a Half wide, and Sixteen Feet high; they are very airy; there is a Privy and Water laid on to each Cell, so that there is no Occasion at any Time for the Prisoner to leave it. I found, on talking to many of the Prisoners, that they viewed the Yards with Indifference. I asked some of the Prisoners in the upper Floor whether they could manage to dispense with them; they said, if the Cell were a little larger, perhaps they should like it as well as the smaller Cell and the Yard. On the upper Floor they did not appear to consider the Privilege of going into the Yards as of great Value. No Two Prisoners are allowed to go into the adjoining Yards at the same Time. There is a Tower which commands a View of the Yards, so that the Prisoners are all inspected.

What is the Thickness of the Walls?

Eighteen Inches, solid Stone. We have in this Country no such Walls as those; ours are generally Thirteen Inches Brick. The Prisoners cannot communicate with each other in the Philadelphia Penitentiary. The Warden related a Fact on that Point. A Prisoner one Day said to him, "I have a very great Favour to ask of you, Sir; I should very much like to know whether or not such an one, (whom he named,) who was concerned with me in the Robbery, was ever apprehended?" The Warden replied, that he could give him no Information on such a Subject. He said, "Little did the Man think that the Individual after whom he inquired had been confined for Ten Months in the very adjoining Cell."

The upper Cells appear to be smaller?

No, not materially so.

How many Cells are there in each of the Wings?

Thirty-five on each Side.

They are allowed to work in the Cells?

Yes, Weaving and Shoemaking are their general Occupations.

How are they warmed?

By Pipes.

Is the Ventilation good?

Very good; the Edifice has a most beautiful Appearance, being built of White Stone.

17

William Crawford, Esq.

Do you know how many Officers it requires to look over the Prisoners?
One Turnkey to Fifty Men; there are Seventy Cells in each Range; the Prison altogether is intended to hold 586 Convicts.

Do you know the Salary the Turnkeys have?
I do not, but they are very moderately paid.

Do the Prisoners have their Meals together, or separate in their Cells?
Always separate; on no Occasion is one Prisoner allowed to see another.

How is the Washing done?
That is done, I believe, out of the House. Even in ordinary Cases of Sickness they are still confined to their Cells; there is an Infirmary, but I believe it has never been used.

Has there been any Instances of a contagious Disorder?
None. The Prisoners were in fact ignorant of the Existence of the Cholera. The Warden begged I would satisfy myself on that Point, and I found that they were entirely ignorant of the Prevalence of this Disease.

How long was that after the Cholera had appeared?
About Seven Months.

Then they must have been all confined that Length of Time?
Yes, the Prisoners to whom I allude; some of them had been confined Four Years.

Is there any Instance of a Man having continued till Death in solitary Confinement?
Several have died there. This Prison has been in operation only since 1829.

How is the Water supplied?
There is a Reservoir in the Centre of the Basement, and there are Pipes which branch off to every Cell.

Is that sufficient?
Yes; nothing can be more cleanly than the State of the Cells.

Are you aware of the average Number of Prisoners in Confinement in England in any One Year?
I think about 17,000 Persons are usually in Confinement at One Time.

Do you know what is the Amount of the Salaries to Officers in the Year?
They vary very considerably.

Is there any congregational Worship among the Prisoners in America?
In the Penitentiaries in New England and New York the Prisoners are assembled every Sunday for Divine Worship.

Are they allowed to have any Intercourse at that Time, or do they join in congregational Worship by making Responses?
The Presbyterian Form of Worship is practised.

In the only Prison in which there is congregational Worship the Presbyterian Form is practised?
Yes; in the Penitentiary at Charlestown, near Boston, a great Number of Sunday School Teachers are admitted on Sunday Mornings, and a School is held. This Arrangement has been made by the Chaplain.

The Chaplain himself is a Presbyterian Clergyman?
He is; it is the prevailing Sect in that Part of America.

Do you know any of the other Prisons of which Chaplains of different Persuasions have the Management?
I think in the Penitentiary for the State of Maryland at Baltimore Clergymen of different Persuasions attend.

No Difficulty or any Dissatisfaction occurs on that Account?
None whatever.

In your Opinion, absolute Solitude cannot be enforced without Employment?
Not to any Extent. It might as a Prison Punishment, or for short Periods.

William Crawford, Esq.

Not generally?

I think it would be too dangerous a Punishment to be entrusted to ordinary Gaolers.

Suppose it was strictly enforced by allowing Clergymen to communicate with the Prisoners, do you think that would be likely to be effectual in a very short Time?

I think it would be very effectual, but I should almost fear to entrust such a Punishment generally to Gaolers in the Country without some Control to guard against its Abuse.

Suppose there was that Guard upon it of the Clergyman communicating with the Prisoners, do you think that would obviate the Objection if the Clergyman was a prudent Man?

I think it might.

You say you think it is too great a Power to be entrusted to a Gaoler; for what Reason, that the Man's Health or his Mind might be affected?

I think that both his Health and his Mind might be affected.

Would not any Danger of that Kind be obviated by the constant Attendance of the Chaplain on the one hand and Surgeons on the other?

The constant Attendance of the Chaplain might obviate the Difficulty, together with the Attendance of the Medical Man; but there should be some such Control over a Punishment, the Abuse of which might be productive of such serious Consequences.

Have you visited the Hulks in this Country?

Some Years ago.

Can there be a worse System?

It was very bad.

Have you had an Opportunity of forming an Opinion of the Effect of Transportation on Persons under Sentence?

I have made Visits to the Prisons of this Country. I have frequently asked the Gaolers their Opinion as to the Efficacy of Transportation, and the Effect which they conceived it had produced on the Prisoners, and I have found that as a Punishment its Effect is very great.

Is it not the Practice to give more than the Gaol Allowance immediately on a Man being sentenced to Transportation?

I believe it is, very generally.

You say that Transportation is very effectual; do you mean to say upon those who have been transported, or the Dread of it?

I speak to the Effect which the Sentence produces on the Minds of Persons in this Country. It excites great Dread. I have had no Opportunity of knowing the Effect it has produced abroad.

Do you know whether Prisoners are aware of the Manner in which Transportation does now operate in the way of Punishment?

I am afraid that they are very ignorant on this Subject.

Were solitary Confinement adopted as Part of the penal Code of this Country, would it not be possible to shorten the Terms of Imprisonment?

They might be shortened very considerably.

Have you formed any Opinion as to the Benefit resulting to Society from Transportation or Imprisonment in the Hulks for a Period of Years?

The only Opportunity I have had of ascertaining the Effect produced by the Hulk System is by my Attendance at the Refuge for the Destitute; I have been on the Committee of that Institution for several Years, and have found that Parties released from the Hulks applying for Relief have generally turned out the very worst Characters.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned till To-morrow, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Mercurii, 1° *Aprilis* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

SAMUEL HOARE Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Chairman of the Committee of the Society for the Improvement of Prison Discipline?
I am.

You have turned your Attention very much to the Subject of Discipline in the Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales?
Very much for several Years past.

Is it your Opinion that the present System is one that answers the Purpose of deterring Persons from the Commission of Crimes, and reforming those who are sent to Gaol?
I consider, that since the passing of the Prison Bill of the 4th of Geo. 4. the State of Prison Discipline has been very much improved in this Country. The Consequence is, that in some measure Persons have been deterred from committing Crime, and in many Cases Reform has been effected where it would not otherwise have been accomplished. Still I consider that the Act is very defective, and a great deal remains to be done, and may be done with the happiest Results.

Do you not think it would be advisable to establish one uniform System of Prison Discipline?
It is highly desirable. The Law enacts the same Penalty to be inflicted for the Commission of the same Offence. Now the Degrees of Punishment, from the Want of Uniformity in Prison Discipline, are totally different; in some Places the Punishment is severe, in others it is so trifling as not to be regarded.

Do you think it would be very difficult to enact a better System, and to take care to have an uniform System?
I do not consider that it would be very difficult. The Regulations in all the different Places of Confinement should be submitted to the same Authority, and Inspectors should be appointed to render Assistance when required, and see that the Act of Parliament is carried into effect.

Do you not think that the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons is absolutely necessary, to take care that whatever System may be enacted shall be carried into execution?
I consider it indispensably necessary. The great Objection that has been raised to it on former Occasions is a supposed Interference with the Magistracy, which would be unpleasant to them, and perhaps deter them from taking the valuable Part in the Discipline of the Gaols they now do; but I am of opinion that if the Inspectors were not armed with any Authority, but were limited to suggesting to the Magistrates and reporting to the Home Office, that their Co-operation would not be offensive to the Magistrates, but highly beneficial.

You would authorize the Inspectors to visit the Prisons, and to attend the Meetings of the Visiting Magistrates, and of report to the Secretary of State?
First to report to the Visiting Justices, and then to the Secretary of State.

Are there Inspectors in Ireland?
There are, and Three or Four Days ago I had a Letter from them. They had heard of this Committee, and felt extremely interested in the Success of its

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

Endeavours, and they wrote me an Account of what they considered Inspectors ought to do. They state, "The Office in Ireland is, as it should be, limited in Power; the Province of the Inspectors General is, by their personal Exertions, to aid the local Authorities of Counties, to supply Information, to offer Suggestions, and to urge the Introduction and watch over the Progress of the Principles laid down by the Law; by their Reports to afford to the Government official Knowledge of the State of every Prison of every Class; to collect together under their several Heads, and place in comparison with each other, the Expenses and other Subjects of Detail connected with the Management of the Prisons of each County; to attend to particular Counties on Occasions of new building or Occupation of new Gaols, or on any other Occasions which may render their Experience necessary; in short, to watch over the whole System of Prison Discipline. Such an Office, without interfering with the local Authorities, is a necessary Aid to them, and, in point of fact, is constantly referred to in all doubtful Cases."

You have had Opportunities of communicating with Magistrates; have you ever understood from them that they would have any Objection to be assisted by the Advice of Gentlemen holding the Situations of Inspectors of Prisons?

I should think certainly not; they would not like any Authority to be exercised over them, and have the Inspectors say such and such a Thing must be done, but they would be very glad to receive their Suggestions.

You are yourself in the Commission of the Peace for Middlesex?

I am.

As a Magistrate you would not object to this?

No; and as Chairman of the Visiting Justices I should hail the Thing with Pleasure. I believe the Feeling of those Gentlemen with whom I act would be similar to mine. Magistrates who are discharging their Duties well, and have the Gaol in proper Order, would be much pleased to have it inspected, and the Progress of their Improvements made known, whilst defective Gaols ought to be exposed.

Would it not be desirable that the Reports of the Inspectors should be laid on the Table of each House of Parliament, to enable Persons in all Parts of the Country to know how the Prisons are managed?

Yes; but Reports being laid on the Table will not answer that Purpose; you can learn very little from Reports. I have read a Report of a Gaol, but when it has been inspected it has appeared different from the Representation; there must be a personal Inspection.

Are you not aware that there is in the Gaol Act a Clause which states that Prisoners undergoing Sentences are not to be permitted to receive any thing but the Gaol Allowance, unless the Visiting Justices make a Regulation to permit them to receive more?

There is such a Clause, and I believe the Rule to be generally in Practice in the best-regulated Prisons. The Visiting Justices of the Middlesex House of Correction have seldom had Occasion to exercise the Licence, except in the Case of Jews at certain Times of the Year. I have known a conscientious Jew who would actually have starved without the Indulgence.

Do you believe that that Rule is generally enforced in England?

Not very strictly; I am inclined to think it is often departed from.

Do you know whether it is carried into execution in Newgate?

Certainly not.

You are aware that Prisoners under Sentences in other Gaols in England sometimes are allowed to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?

They are occasionally.

Are they not allowed to smoke in some of the Prisons?

In many Gaols they are, but not so frequently in Houses of Correction, and we must always make a marked Difference between a Gaol and a House of Correction.

If a Regulation was made prohibiting a Prisoner under Sentence from receiving any thing other than the Prison Allowance unless under very special Circum-

Circumstances, those Circumstances to be inserted in the Gaol Book, and reported to the Inspectors, do you think that would prevent its being carried into execution so much as it is at present? *Samuel Hoare, Esq.*

I consider that there would be no Objection to making a general Regulation, that, excepting by the Direction of the Surgeon, no Prisoner in execution of his Sentence should receive any thing from without: any Deviation from the Rule to be entered on the Prison Minutes. By this Method the Practice would be less frequent.

Do you think it is advisable to permit Prisoners under Sentence to see their Friends in Prison?

Certainly not, excepting on especial Occasions.

It is the Practice at present, is it not?

It is the Practice at present on the Production of a Magistrate's Order. In some Prisons the Visiting Days are limited. Circumstances arise in which I should think a Prisoner should see his Friends, for instance, in case of extreme Illness, either his own or that of his Family. I have known in the House of Correction many Cases where it would have been a great Hardship to debar the Prisoner from seeing his Friends; sometimes his pecuniary Concerns require that Communication.

You would make the Permission to see their Friends an Exception to the general Rule?

Certainly.

Would that apply also to the Permission to receive and read Letters?

It is an Object to make Imprisonment a more decided Punishment, at the same Time to shorten its Duration. By debarring Prisoners from receiving Letters you make it much more severe, but you may compensate for that by making the Term of Imprisonment shorter.

Are you not aware that there are many Persons now confined in Gaol who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?

I have no Doubt it is the Case in many Prisons. If we look over the Gaol Returns we shall find amongst them a great many Lunatics, but they have not all been acquitted; they have not all been put upon their Trial; they are confined under different Circumstances, the Majority upon summary Convictions for Assaults and disorderly Conduct. There is one now in the House of Correction for Middlesex who must probably continue there during his whole Life. He is a young Man about Twenty-five, and a confirmed Lunatic; of course the Discipline of the Gaol will sustain Injury the whole Time he is there, and it appears to me a great Defect in the 4th of Geo. 4. that Lunatics cannot be sent to their Parishes upon the Fact of their Lunacy being fully established. One Man was lately discharged from the Middlesex House of Correction who was confined there during His Majesty's Pleasure, a Jury having found him insane previous to Trial, after having been confined for nearly Twelve Months for the trifling Offence of picking up Two or Three Rabbit Traps in ———. Another Man is still there for an Assault, or breaking a Window, or some trifling Offence; he is there, and must be confined, unless the County undertakes to pay his Expenses in the Asylum.

Those Men have no Chance of becoming sane in a Gaol; at all events the Chance is rendered much smaller by their being there?

They have some Advantages in a good Gaol; they are kept from fermented Liquors, and have the constant Attention of Medical Men, not, of course, of Men peculiarly skilled in Disorders of the Mind.

Is there not a Ward in the Lunatic Asylum in the County of Lancaster to which all Persons under those Circumstances are committed?

I am not aware.

Do you not think it desirable that Government should send such Persons to Lunatic Asylums instead of retaining them in a Gaol?

It would be most desirable. The Government now has the Power, but the Difficulty is, that the County has to bear the Expense of the Maintenance; an Expense which ought to fall upon the Parish if the Prisoner's Means are insufficient.

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

That would do where a Man's Parish was known, but with an Irishman it would not apply?

No. The County of Middlesex is paying, I think, at the present Time, nearly 1,400*l.* a Year for the Maintenance of Lunatics whose Parishes have not been ascertained.

Do you allude to criminal Lunatics?

Many of them are considered criminal, but are not Criminals in fact, because a Lunatic cannot commit a Crime. I would beg leave to suggest, that when a Magistrate has committed a Lunatic to Prison for Trial or Punishment, that he should be authorized to discharge such Prisoner upon the Production of sufficient and satisfactory Evidence of the previous and present State of his Mind. It is a Farce to punish a Man for an Offence which he could not have committed, or keeping him for several Weeks in Confinement preparatory to his Trial, when we know that the State of his Mind renders a Trial impossible.

You would see no Objection to the Magistrates sending him to a Lunatic Asylum because the Visiting Magistrates and the Medical Men of that Lunatic Asylum would not receive him unless he was a Lunatic?

They would require the proper Certificates.

The Magistrates have the Power at present of sending Insane Persons to Lunatic Asylums who have been taken into Poorhouses?

Yes.

It would only be giving them the same Power in regard to those sent to Gaol?

In Cases sent from Parishes the Magistrate acts upon the Representation of the Parochial Authorities; without this he cannot commit them.

Would not such a Provision tend to increase the Pretences to Insanity which are sometimes set up after the Commission of grave Crimes?

No Doubt. Precautions must be taken, and medical Certificates must be obtained from Men conversant with the Disease. They are seldom to be imposed upon.

Is it not desirable that those Facts in grave Cases should be submitted to a Jury?

I should prefer the Opinion of Medical Men to the Decision of a Jury. If the Cases are to be submitted to a Jury, the Prisoners are confined in a very improper Manner previous to the Submission, and after the Jury has decided upon the Insanity they are returned to the same Place of Confinement, and exposed to Intercourse with other Prisoners. When placed in the Infirmaries they very much disturb the Sick.

Might not some Regulation be made by which the Decision as to his Lunacy might be suspended, the Man being confined until the Period at which the Assizes or Court before which he was to be tried was assembled?

It might be so in some Lunatic Asylum.

You conceive it would be of very great Importance to the Discipline of the Gaols that those Persons should not remain in the Gaol after they have been found by a Jury to be insane?

Most important.

One Man has been confined for many Years in the Gaol in Anglesea?

One has been confined there for Thirteen or Fourteen Years, another at Exeter for Twenty-two.

Are there not many who have been confined many Years?

Many for many Years.

What is your Opinion with respect to Silence in Gaols and in Houses of Correction?

That it is a good, but not a sufficient Substitute, for separate Confinement.

Where separate Confinement is difficult or impossible, do you not think the next best Thing is enforcing Silence?

I conceive it is; but I hardly know a Case where separate Confinement may

not be attained. By Parliamentary Returns, the whole Expense of providing separate Cells for the greatest Number of Prisoners confined in England at one Time during the Year 1832 was under 300,000*l.*; and when we consider that the Expense is divided amongst so many Counties and spread (if the Magistrates think proper) over so many Years, it is a Trifle not worth Consideration.

Does that include the whole Number of Persons confined?
The highest Number of Prisoners confined throughout England at one Time in the Year 1832.

What would be the Number that Sum would provide for?
With the Addition of the Cells already in use, for the highest Number of Prisoners in Confinement in England and Wales at one and the same Time in the Year 1832.

Do you consider that the present Cells are large enough, supposing the Term of Imprisonment to be a long one?
The Cells now in use are not sufficiently large to enable a Man to exist if he were to be confined, as in the Penitentiary at Pennsylvania, for long Periods without passing the Doors; but I consider that they are quite sufficient for Health, provided proper Time is allowed for Exercise and Air.

What Degree of solitary Confinement do you contemplate in an Arrangement of this Kind?
I would rather use the Word separate than solitary.

You mean that a Man should be by himself in a Cell, and work there?
Yes.

Your preceding Observations do not apply to what is more properly called solitary Confinement?
No; I would rather use the Word separate than solitary. I would allow Intercourse with the Gaoler, the Chaplain, the Medical Officer, and Persons bringing, taking away, and instructing them in their Work. The Solitude should also be alleviated by Reading, Air, and Exercise.

That they should sleep in separate Cells?
Yes, invariably.

Have you turned your Attention to the Effect of solitary Confinement, depriving them of all Employment or any thing which can divert the Mind from the Horror of such Imprisonment?
I have not only turned my Attention to that Subject, but have often seen it inflicted in Cases of highly refractory Prisoners; and whether it arises from any Peculiarity in the English Constitution different from the American, or any other Cause, I do not think in this Country a Man could exist in Solitude without Employment. With Employment the injurious Effects are very much removed; but without Employment I have never seen it tried, except for perhaps a Week or Ten Days, without exciting much Anxiety for the Health of the Prisoner.

For what Length of Time have you seen it tried without Employment?
The Person who endured it longest was a Female. She was seen daily by the Governor, the Chaplain, and the Matron. Before she would submit she had been nearly Forty Days in her Cell, and her Health seemed likely to suffer before she would yield to Authority.

Did you pursue your Inquiries on that particular Case any further as to what became of the Woman?
The Woman was discharged shortly afterwards, but I think before very long she returned.

In despite of this Punishment?
Yes; she was a very low bad Character.

Do not you think that solitary Confinement, strictly solitary, must impair the Mind, and that a Person so confined would lose his Senses at last?
I think strictly solitary Confinement, without Employment and in small Cells, would have that Effect; with Employment and in roomy Cells, the Experience of America shows us a different Result.

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

There would be considerable Difficulty in adapting Employment to the shorter Terms of Imprisonment, would there not?

I am inclined to think it will never answer in this Country to attempt the Introduction of Trades. In the Middlesex House of Correction—and probably in others it is much the same—the average Period of Confinement does not exceed Six Weeks; now in Six Weeks it is quite impossible to convert a Labourer into a Shoemaker; he will only spoil the Materials, and do no Good to himself or others. But there are various Employments in which Prisoners may be occupied, such as the Tread-wheel Labour and picking Oakum; besides, in a large Prison many may be employed in Repairs and Alterations as Carpenters, Bricklayers, Smiths, Shoemakers, Knitters, and Needle-women.

That does away with solitary Confinement?

Yes; with solitary Confinement knitting or picking Oakum are our only Expedients.

When they are employed do you make any Difference in their Diet?

None.

Do you give them any Allowance for their Labour?

No; that would sweeten their Labour, and make their Imprisonment less irksome.

Is not Silence now enjoined in the House of Correction in Cold Bath Fields?

Strictly.

On Persons before as well as after Trial?

We have no Prisoners before Trial there; the House of Correction is confined almost exclusively to Prisoners in execution of their Sentence.

You strictly enforce Silence in that House of Correction?

So strictly that I have been through all the Passages in the Night, as well as every Part of the Prison in the Day, without hearing a Sound, except occasionally, in the Stillness of the Night, of a Man breathing hard in Sleep. Since the Silence has been strictly enforced I have, as Chairman of the Visiting Justices, thought it my Duty to watch it closely, and it appears to answer well. The Rule is occasionally broken, but the Punishments are very unfrequent, considering how many Prisoners come in daily unaccustomed to the Habit.

What is the Punishment you inflict on a Person who breaks that Regulation?

The Prisoners on the Tread-wheel who speak a first Time are to work an extra Turn instead of coming down at the End of the Wheel; if they offend a second Time they lose their Supper, which is about Six Ounces of Bread and Half a Pint of Gruel; if the Oakum Pickers talk they lose their Suppers; then a Prisoner having been reported to have spoken Three or Four Times is locked up for the Day, as are also those who use insulting Language to the Monitor, or who swear when touched for speaking.

When they are locked up for the Day, is that in solitary Confinement?

Strictly solitary Confinement. Prisoners reported for speaking in their Cells at Night lose their Suppers; if they do not desist when the Watchman knocks at the Cell Door, they are locked up; if their Conversation is blasphemous or obscene, they are also locked up; that however rarely takes place.

If they speak at Night, how is the Punishment administered?

The Watchman has a Slate, on which he writes down every Complaint; if he hears any thing said in the Cell, he knocks at the Door, and reports it early in the Morning. The Governor hears all the Circumstances, and the Punishments which I have mentioned are inflicted at his Discretion; he has no Occasion to apply to the Magistrates for any Punishment short of Three Days solitary Confinement, but the Punishments are all recorded in the Punishment Book.

When they speak in the Night are they alone?

No; in the House of Correction we have more Prisoners than Cells, but we are endeavouring to remedy the Evil in a measure—but it is a very poor Substitute for a solitary Cell—by placing them in Cribs by the Side of the Walls, separated

separated from and out of sight of each other, inspected by Monitors, who are themselves overlooked by Officers.

Cannot they speak in a Whisper without being heard?
They are so arranged that they cannot speak the one to the other without being overheard.

The Question refers to those in the same Cell at Night?
Yes. It is impossible entirely to prevent or detect Conversation in the Night when more than One Prisoner is in a Cell.

So far as it is practicable, you think it a very great Advantage to enforce Silence?
Most important. In the House of Correction there are a certain Number of Cells appropriated to each Class. At locking up a single Prisoner is placed in each Cell, and the Remainder are placed in Rooms fitted up with Cribs, so placed as to be under the constant Inspection of his Monitors; but we have only completed the Arrangement in a few Rooms at present.

Does the Rule of Silence apply to Women as well as to Men?
Yes, just the same.

Do you find that it is as easy to keep the Women silent as the Men?
Just the same.

How long has this Rule been in operation?
About Three Months, during which Time the average Number of Prisoners has been 900, and the Punishments trifling, as they have not exceeded the Number of Twenty a Day.

Has the Number of those Punishments been found to diminish since the Commencement of the present System?
I am informed it has, but I have no Return.

It would be practicable, from the Account kept, to have such a Return?
Perfectly; all the Punishments are recorded.

Have you been obliged to use corporal Punishment in any Case to enforce Silence?
In no Case; and I should state, that within the last Three Months since the silent System has been introduced there has been no Complaint brought before the Visiting Justices of any Offence.

Three Days have been the Maximum of Punishment required to enforce Silence?
There has been no Prisoner punished with more than Three Days solitary Confinement since this System was introduced.

Before that were there frequent Instances of Insubordination?
Yes, very frequent.

Was corporal Punishment frequently resorted to in those Cases?
Seldom; the Magistrates had a great Objection to corporal Punishment; they would rather sentence to solitary Confinement on Bread and Water.

Do you know at all what has been the Effect of Silence upon the Prisoners?
The Period of its Introduction has been so short that I feel unwilling to answer the Question. I am a Member of the Committee of the Refuge for the Destitute. The Refuge for the Destitute receives a great many Prisoners discharged from the House of Correction. I have talked to them a good deal in private; they evidently dislike it, but I have not heard Complaints.

Do you not think it a very great Advantage, inasmuch as it prevents the Prisoner from being discharged a worse Man than when committed?
That is the Object; it prevents Contamination.

Do you not think that the good Men will not dislike it so much as the bad, because the good will be saved from hearing a great deal of Blasphemy and bad Language?
The more respectable Prisoners would feel the Privilege of being saved from hearing what would otherwise have been going on.

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

Have many Prisoners gone out since that System of Silence has been enforced?
A great many.

Have any of those Persons who have gone out been again committed?
I am not able to answer the Question without referring to the Books of the Prison.

When the System of corporal Punishment was enforced, was it more or less effectual than the present System?
Much less effectual; formerly we had many more Complaints of Insubordination than we have now.

Have you ever inflicted solitary Confinement to that Extent which has made it very effectual?
The Justices have inflicted it to the Extent of reducing the Prisoner from Insubordination to Propriety of Conduct, but beyond that we have no Right to go.

You say you put some of the Prisoners to extra Work on the Tread-mill; in that Case do they receive extra Diet?
No.

What is the Length of Time consumed in one additional Turn?
I am unable to state exactly.

Does the Enactment of Silence appear to alarm the Prisoners?
I have never observed that Effect; but there are very few Opportunities of observing it.

Can you produce the Rules and Regulations enforced in Cold Bath Fields, and the Scale of Diet?
I will procure them, and forward them to the Committee.

Do you find it necessary in Cold Bath Fields to increase the Gaol Allowance to Persons committed for long Periods?
Invariably.

What is the lowest Scale, the Three Months or the Four?
The Three Months. The exact Dietary will be found in the Return to the House of Commons; there has been no material Alteration in it.

You have stated the Tread-wheel as one of the Systems of Employment for the Prisoners in the House of Correction; do you believe the Tread-mill to be much more severe than the common Labour of an Agricultural Labourer?
No, I consider it to be not so severe. It varies very much indeed in different Houses of Correction; in some, I think, the Prisoner makes as many as Fourteen or Fifteen thousand Feet of Ascent; in those the Labour is much more severe than ordinary Agricultural Labour, but not so where it is Five thousand Feet.

Is it not desirable that the Degree of Labour should be equalized in the different Prisons?
Most decidedly. One of the great Defects we are now labouring under is, that in some Prisons the Labour is not at all regarded, whilst in others it is very severe.

Cannot you apply it in a graduated Way, so as to have it more or less severe?
Prisoners might be placed upon it for a longer or a shorter Period, but the Rule is the same throughout the Prison, with the Exception that Females have less Labour than Males.

Could not you increase their personal Labour by putting a smaller Number on the Wheel?
It makes no Difference in the Labour whether there are Fifty Persons or Five hundred upon it at the same Time.

The

27

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

The only Way in which a Difference could be made in the Labour would be by making the Turns come round quicker?

We cannot make any Alteration in the Revolutions of the Wheel; the Prisoners take Forty-eight Steps of Eighteen Inches each in a Minute, and we cannot make it go faster or slower.

What do you conceive is the Punishment of an Agricultural Labourer who is sentenced to hard Labour upon the Tread-mill?

The Loss of Liberty, the being deprived of Intercourse with his Friends and Family, Labour without deriving any Benefit from it, and the being subjected to all the Discipline of the Prison.

Does that Punishment affect him as severely as it does the Person who is used to more sedentary Employment?

I cannot answer from my own Observation.

Do you recollect the Time when the Tread-mill was first introduced?

Perfectly.

At the Time the Prisoners felt it a great Grievance?

Yes, and so they still do. It is great Indulgence to take them off the Wheel; they are by no means indifferent to it.

Have you an Ergometer on your Tread mill?

No.

Do you think it a good Invention?

I should think it a very good Invention in small Prisons, where there is not a sufficient Number of Officers to superintend each Yard, but in a large Prison the Men should never be left alone; if they are under the Eye of an Officer, we want no mechanical Check.

Except in checking the Officer?

There should be another Eye on the Officer.

Do you not conceive that in Cases of minor Offences more Benefit would be derived from a short solitary Confinement than from Confinement to hard Labour?

The Punishment would be much more severe, and I should think more effectual; the only Difficulty would be the inflicting it without Prejudice to the Health, mental and bodily, of the Prisoner.

The mental and bodily Health of the Prisoner being constantly watched over, do you not think it would be beneficial, with a view to deterring others, and reforming the Individual?

In case of a Sentence to solitary Confinement, there must be a very wide Discretion left somewhere; if that Discretion were properly exercised, I think that no Punishment could be better or more effectual.

Do you not think more frequent Gaol Deliveries and Intermediate Sessions very desirable?

Very desirable indeed. The long Intervals between them present a great Obstacle to a good System of Prison Discipline. To keep a Person in Confinement many Months before Trial is so gross an Act of Injustice, that it is extraordinary that no Remedy has been provided for it.

A more frequent Gaol Delivery would have the Effect, of course, of diminishing the Time which Persons would be in Prison before Trial?

Yes; and I would suggest, that not only Sessions should be held more frequently, but that Magistrates should try at them graver Offences than they do at present.

Do you think that any thing should be done which would increase the Power and Practice of taking Bail for minor Offences?

That is a Measure I have thought of a great deal, and I am quite convinced Bail might be taken to a much greater Extent than is now done without the Ends of Justice being at all impeded by it; the more respectable Persons would easily find among their Neighbours, poor Men perhaps like themselves,

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

but Men who would quite willingly give Bail for them, and I should prefer their Bail to a great deal of the Bail which is now taken.

Have you turned your Attention at all to the Practicability of establishing Tribunals for the Trial of juvenile Offenders and minor Offences?

Against that there is Difficulty; in the first instance, the Trial by Jury, which an Englishman claims as his Birthright. It appears to me that the Difficulty would be nearly surmounted. Prisoners accused of Offences of a limited Extent, to which a limited Punishment is annexed, might have the Option of taking their Trial before Two or more Magistrates, or being committed for the Sessions.

Would you see any Objection to the Magistrates at Petty Sessions having the Power to empannel a Jury of Five or Six, and try a Prisoner?

I see no Objection to that whatever.

Do you not think it most desirable to prevent as much as possible the Commitment of Persons of tender Years to the Gaols and the Houses of Correction?

The Effect almost invariably produced is to harden them in Crime.

And to teach them many Things they were not aware of before?

Yes, certainly.

For minor Offences are not the Judges very frequently obliged to impose very small Sentences on Persons convicted before them in consequence of the Length of Time they have been in Prison before Trial?

The Prisoner is often told by the Judge, that, in consideration of the long Term of Imprisonment he has already undergone, the Sentence shall be lessened.

How young have you ever had a Culprit brought into the House of Correction?

I have seen them at, I should say, Nine or Ten; at least they told me such was their Age, but we cannot always credit what they say.

Were they hardened Offenders?

They soon became hardened; they often begin by robbing Children as young as themselves; snatching a Necklace or a Shawl from another Child.

Is it not the common Practice that the older Pickpockets bring up the younger ones to it?

I have often heard that Opinion expressed, and I have made a great many Inquiries about it, but I cannot find it to be the Case. The young associate together and contrive their Robberies together, and the old also. I do not think that they often combine.

You have no Doubt that those Children come out of Gaol much worse than they went in?

Such is the inevitable Consequence of a bad System of Prison Discipline.

When the very young ones come in, do they feel very much annoyed at being brought into Prison at first?

No, I do not think they do; some cry a little at first.

What is your System as to Prisoners brought in before they are tried?

In the House of Correction we have no Prisoners before Trial.

Have you any Soldiers under Sentence of Court-martial?

We have sometimes, but they generally go to Brixton.

You have a Chaplain to the House of Correction at Cold Bath Fields?

Yes.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to that Prison?

Yes; and the whole of that Time devoted most conscientiously is quite insufficient for the Discharge of the Duties. This the Magistrates are fully aware of. The Act of Parliament of the 4th of Geo. 4. allows the Appointment of One Chaplain, but does not allow Two; the Consequence is, that the Services are not performed so frequently as they ought to be; he has not Time. No One Individual can have Time, though he may be engaged incessantly to go from

from Cell to Cell, and have that Communication with Nine or Twelve Hundred Prisoners which I consider almost essential to Reformation.

The Chaplain, in your Opinion, is of great Service in the Prison when the Prisoners are undergoing their Sentences?

Yes, and upon their Discharge our Chaplain renders important Services in that respect; for Women discharged after a first Offence he will provide Places of Retreat, and he rescues many Boys and Girls by the Efforts he makes to reconcile them to their Friends, or find them Asylums. He has Fourteen regular Services in Chapel weekly, besides visiting the Sick, and communicating with the other Prisoners.

What is his Salary?

£400 a Year.

Does he read the Morning and Evening Service?

He reads a Selection of Prayers from the Liturgy, according to the Act of Parliament, every Morning, to the Males and Females separately, and also reads a Portion of Scripture, and explains it to them, the Men and Women being collected in separate Chapels. We have but Two Services on Sunday, One in each.

Are Dissenting Clergymen admitted?

I never recollect an Application. They would not be admitted, I should think, without the Approbation of the Visiting Justices; but the Visiting Justices would not refuse them in proper Cases. I recollect Dr. Herschel, the Jewish High Priest, applying for it, and it was granted him immediately, but I never recollect the Application of a Dissenting Minister.

Or a Roman Catholic Priest?

No.

Did Dr. Herschel apply from his own Wish, or a Wish expressed by One of the Prisoners?

One of the Prisoners, if I recollect right, wished to speak to him. Any Prisoner applying for the Assistance of a Dissenting Minister would have it granted to him immediately.

Do you not believe that the Gaols under the Corporate Bodies of this Country are, from various Causes, in a much worse State of Discipline than the County Gaols and Houses of Correction?

Some of the larger Gaols are pretty well regulated; the smaller Gaols are extremely bad, and I should say without Hesitation great Nurseries of Crime. Where there is a very small Number of Prisoners confined in one Place Prison Discipline cannot be enforced; they have not the Requisites. Many Gaols are without any Religious Instruction, many without any Place of separate Confinement, almost all without Employment—a Gaoler who is occupied about other Things perhaps a great Part of the Day—the Establishment not sufficiently large to employ proper Officers; in short, they are so exceedingly bad that the sooner they are abolished the better; they cannot be carried on as at present without great Evil.

Have you made up your Mind as to the Number of Attendants, in proportion relatively to the Number of Prisoners confined, that are necessary to give full Effect to the System of Prison Discipline?

The Answer depends very much upon the Construction of the Prison; if there is a separate Cell for each Prisoner, I imagine that an efficient System of Prison Discipline might be attained with a Number of Officers One Third less than where the Prisoners are congregated without separate Cells. I consider there ought to be at least One Officer to Thirty Prisoners.

Do you not, under these Circumstances, think that it would be in the End economical, on the Part of any County or any Portion of a County which had not a sufficient Gaol to accommodate with private Cells, to increase the Prison to the Extent of furnishing separate Cells?

I am perfectly satisfied that it would. If the Prisons were constructed on the proper Principle, with separate Cells, you could then inflict in a shorter Period a much more severe Punishment, and consequently there would be a great Saving in many Ways,—in the diminished Period in which the Prisoner

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

would be supported at the Expense of the Public, in the diminished Time for which his Family would be deprived of the Benefit of his Labour, and, what is still more important, the improved instead of the deteriorated State of his Morals. The Prisoners would not then leave the Gaols contaminated as they now do.

Do you believe that the Hulk System has been of any Service?
Far from it; it is admirably calculated to promote Crime.

Are Persons retained in the Gaols after they have been sentenced to Transportation?
Occasionally.

Are they kept there any Length of Time?
They have been kept there sometimes One Year, and transported at the End of the Period. I do not recollect any Case beyond One Year.

You do not recollect any Case in which a Prisoner has been retained there who was not sentenced to a Year's Imprisonment previous to Transportation?
No, I know of no Case of that Kind. They must remain in Gaol till the sailing of the Transport.

Do not you think, if such a Practice does exist, it is very prejudicial to the Discipline of the Gaol?
I am not aware that it would be, if the Men were subjected to the Discipline of the Gaol.

Suppose a Man was sentenced to Transportation for Life, should you, if he was confined for a Year in your Gaol, think yourself justified in giving him hard Labour?
This must depend upon his Sentence. If not sentenced to hard Labour he must not be placed on the Tread-wheel, but he might be employed in picking Oakum or other Labour not severe.

Are you of opinion that it would be desirable to combine the Punishment where it is found necessary to inflict a long Period of Imprisonment with Transportation?
I consider that it would be most important, as a Prevention of Crime, to inflict the Punishment in this Country, and then to transport the Criminal for a fixed Period, and on his Arrival at the Colony to treat him as a Freeman, under strict Surveillance.

He being transported at the Expense of Government?
Yes; but there is no Reason why he should not, soon after his Arrival in the Colony, repay all the Expenses which have been incurred on his Behalf in this Country.

You would make that Man a simple Exile for Life, and not allow him to return to this Country?
I am not sure that I would call it for Life, though it would be in fact for Life. Very few Convicts return.

Do you see any Objection to making it an Exile for Life?
I think that would have an Appearance of Severity which had better be avoided. I would attach the Punishment to much more trifling Offences than we now transport for; I would commute a Part of the Sentence of Imprisonment for Transportation, and many of the more respectable Prisoners would be very glad to go; if sentenced to Two Years separate Imprisonment, they would be glad to go Abroad at the End of Six Months, subject to the Repayment of all the Expenses incurred.

Do not you think a Punishment, partly Imprisonment and partly Transportation, would be a very good one?
Yes. Colonel Arthur's Correspondence, with which the Committee are of course acquainted, throws great Light upon this Question.

Do you mean that you would make it voluntary with the Prisoner to take a Part of his Punishment by Transportation?
I would give him the Option, which I think many would avail themselves of most gladly.

Would not that enable a Man to carry into execution his Desire of reforming himself, while he finds that remaining here among his old Comrades it is almost impossible?

It is morally impossible for a Man discharged from Prison here to return to good Conduct unless he be peculiarly circumstanced.

You would send him to another Country, where he might lead a new Life?

Yes, where he might begin again with a good Prospect of Success.

You do not mean that you would send him to any Part of Europe, but to a Country to which Criminals are sent?

I do not know that I would transport him to our present penal Colony; it would be throwing a Degree of Stigma upon him, and expose him to injurious Associations.

Are you not of opinion it would prevent a great deal of Corruption which takes place, especially in populated Districts, by the Return to the District of a Person who has been tried for a grave Offence?

I have no Doubt of it.

In what Manner would you enforce the Repayment of their Expenses?

In the Colony of Van Dieman's Land the Earnings of a Labourer, and much more those of a Mechanic, are very considerable. A strict Surveillance must be kept over the Parties, and any Backwardness in making their Payments must be visited by Employment on Government Works. A Man in some Trades at Van Dieman's Land would earn Six or Seven Shillings a Day; his Expenses would not be more than Twelve to Fifteen Shillings a Week; and whilst he was repaying the Money for which he is charged for his Transportation and Prosecution, he would be acquiring valuable Habits of Industry and Forethought.

Do you not think it would be desirable to employ him on Government Works until he had reimbursed the Expenses of his being sent out?

I would give him the Option of working for whom he pleased so long as his Conduct was correct and he paid his Instalments; if his Conduct was incorrect, or if he failed in his Payments, I would employ him on Government Works.

There is a great Facility in Van Dieman's Land to recover Expenses from the Settlers, a Register being kept?

Yes.

What Impression is made upon the Minds of Prisoners from their Knowledge of the Alterations which have taken place in the Laws respecting Transportation?

I am sorry to say that Information has not been generally spread. I do not believe that the Alteration is generally known and understood.

Do you not think it would be very desirable that that Information should be communicated generally to the Public?

It would. The Judges on the Circuits have mentioned it in their Charges, but that is not sufficient. An official Statement should be drawn up of the Treatment and Discipline a Convict is to be subjected to on his Arrival in the penal Colony, the Grades of Punishment to be inflicted on the First, Second, and Third Classes explained, and this Statement should be posted up in every Room, Cell, and Yard in every Gaol and House of Correction.

Who do you recommend should be at the Expense of transporting those Persons?

The Government in the first instance, but to be reimbursed by the Payments of the Convicts themselves.

Suppose they were married Men, would you recommend that their Families should accompany them?

In the course of a very short Time, if they are well behaved, they will be able to send for their Wives and Families at their own Expense.

Do you think they would be inclined to do so?

The Convicts now are much disposed to it. I have been engaged, very lately, in getting the Wife and Family of a Convict sent out to him at his

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

earnest Request; and when they are treated as Settlers and not Prisoners, they will be far more desirous of it.

Is the Discipline in the Convict Ships in which Prisoners are conveyed to our Colonies as good as it might be?

I think decidedly otherwise. The Plan of the first Part of the Sentence being passed in a Penitentiary previous to Transportation has been objected to on the Grounds that all the good Impressions received during the Confinement at Home would be obliterated by the contaminating Influence of the Passage; but I do not see why the System of Silence should not be enforced in our Convict Ships as well as in our Gaols. The Presence of more Officers than those employed at present might be required, but the Addition would be inconsiderable. Three or Four Hundred Convicts properly disciplined would require a small Number of Officers to enforce Silence and Order.

Would it not be desirable there should be some Enactment enforcing it?

I am not aware that there is any Code of Regulation for Convicts.

Do not you think there would be more Danger of Mutiny on board a Convict Vessel than there would be in one of our Prisons?

The Idea of Mutiny never entered into my Calculation; I never saw a Symptom of it in a well-regulated Prison, and I have been a good deal conversant with Gaols for the last Twenty Years.

The Discipline in a Convict Ship is left very much to the Surgeon, who is, I believe, the Commanding Officer?

Yes.

Is the Paper now shown to you the Dietary of Cold Bath Fields Prison?

It is.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

"Dietary or other Weekly Allowance and Weekly Cost per Head?—Prisoners above Sixteen Years of Age, whose Period of Confinement exceeds Three Months, as follows:—One Pound and a Quarter of Bread and One Pint of Gruel daily for Breakfast; Six Ounces of Meat and One Pint of Soup Three Times per Week; One Pint of Gruel on Saturday for Dinner. Prisoners above Sixteen Years of Age, whose Period does not exceed Three Months, as follows:—One Pound and a Quarter of Bread and One Pint of Gruel daily for Breakfast; Six Ounces of Meat and a Pint of Soup twice each per Week; One Pint of Gruel Three Times per Week for Dinner. Prisoners under Sixteen Years of Age, One Pound of Bread and One Pint of Gruel daily for Breakfast; Six Ounces of Meat and One Pint of Soup once each per Week; One Pint of Gruel Five Times per Week for Dinner. All Prisoners whose Period of Confinement exceeds Six Months have Half a Pint of Gruel as an extra Evening Meal. Average Cost per Head not exceeding 1*s.* 10¼*d.* per Week.

It appears by this that a Man sent to the Prison for a longer Period than Three Months receives an increased Gaol Allowance?

We find his Health fail under a protracted Imprisonment.

Would you not think it most desirable that the Term of Imprisonment should be shortened as much as possible, Three Months of Imprisonment at a lower Scale of Diet being as severe as Four Months with an increased Gaol Allowance?

It would be very desirable that the Term of Imprisonment generally should be shortened. I think the first few Weeks and the last few Weeks are the only Times which are profitable; that the intervening Weeks are passed in a listless Indifference. The only Benefit arising from long Imprisonment is its Effect in breaking off former Connexions.

Do you think that the present Practice of allowing Persons under Sentence of Transportation an increased daily Allowance beneficial?

It depends upon the Term they have to remain in the Prison previous to their Transportation. If they are discharged in the course of a few Weeks, they require nothing unusual; if they are confined a longer Period, additional Diet is necessary, more particularly before setting out on a Voyage of Four Months.

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

Do you believe that the Classification which is enacted by the present Gaol Act can be effectual;—Persons committed for Misdemeanors are to be kept separate from Persons committed for Felonies; does it not very often occur that the Man who is committed for a Misdemeanor is a greater Scoundrel than the man who has been committed for a minor Felony?

I conceive that Classification has nearly failed. I gave up my Idea of its Value on seeing a Person who was guilty of cutting off the Head of his own Child, who was tried for Murder, and escaped on a Point of Law, a few Days after associated with the Cases for Assault.

You consider that Classification by Act of Parliament is of very little if any Service?

I would suggest, in lieu of Classification, to have Separation and Silence.

You would see no Objection to enacting Silence in Gaols and Houses of Correction, even before Trial?

In the Case of a Prisoner before Trial, I consider Separation as most important, absolutely due as an Act of Justice to him; and if you can once accomplish a greater Frequency of Gaol Deliveries, there is no Difficulty whatever in its Accomplishment. I would not suffer a Prisoner before Trial to see or be seen by any other Prisoner in the Place. He should see his legal Adviser at suitable Times, he should see his Friends, he should have Access to Books, but he should not be considered as a Criminal nor be associated with Criminals. If, upon his Trial, he should be acquitted, he may then return untainted to Society, not exposed to the Shame and Pain of meeting in the Streets and having his Acquaintance claimed by those who may have been imprisoned at the same Time with him. I think a Man who is acquitted should not be subjected to such Disgrace.

Are you aware of any Instance in which Persons under the Circumstances you have stated have got into respectable Service, and a Man who had known him in the Gaol stated, that if he did not come and drink with him, he would inform his Employer that he had been in Gaol?

Mr. Crawford mentions such a Circumstance, and I have heard of similar Cases. I cannot speak to them from my own Knowledge, but I think the Circumstance very likely to occur.

Have you any Suggestion you would wish to make to the Committee?

There is one Thing I would beg to mention—the Punishment of Flogging. A Prisoner is sentenced by the Court to be flogged. I believe that few Judges or Magistrates are aware what the Punishment is; it is not known what the Instrument is with which it is to be inflicted, and the Instrument is seldom the same in Two Prisons; it is not known what Number of Lashes are to be inflicted —all is left to the Discretion of the Gaoler. This surely ought not to be; the Sentence of Whipping ought to be defined; a certain Number of Lashes with a certain Instrument should be a Part of the Sentence, always to be executed in the Presence of the Surgeon. I have heard of several Cases in which it has been very improperly exercised.

It is seldom exercised with Cruelty or with Favoritism?

No. I would also observe, that we are called upon as Visiting Justices to give a great many Passes to Prisoners on their Discharge; we give them with a great deal of Caution, but we cannot do it without an Oath. It is unpleasant to call upon a Boy of Twelve or Fourteen to swear that which he cannot know, where he was born, or what Rent his Father paid; if the Pass could be given to mere Children without an Oath, I think it would be better. I gave a Boy a Pass last Friday; he was not so high as this Chair, and to ask him to swear where he was born seemed like trifling with an Oath. By the 4th of Geo. 4. we can give a moderate Sum of Money to enable a Man to return to a Place of Employment or his Friends; if we could grant a Pass in the same Way the Difficulty would be removed.

Do you bear in mind that, with respect to this Pauper who is passed under his Oath, wherever a Case came to be tried where his Settlement really was, he must be necessarily examined on Oath, and would it not therefore be rather injudicious that in the one Instance his Settlement should be merely declared by him, and then, that where that is to be decided, it must be on Oath?

Samuel Hoare, Esq.

There might be that Inconvenience, but the Pass is not at all obligatory on the Parish Officers; besides, a Man has no Occasion to produce it on arriving in his own Parish; and probably he would be unwilling, by producing it, to publish to his Neighbours that he is just discharged from Gaol.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. G. T. Bullar.

Mr. GEORGE THOMAS BULLAR is called in, and examined as follows:

You are, I believe, Secretary to the Society for the Improvement of Prison Discipline and for the Reformation of juvenile Offenders?
I am.

Are you enabled to give the Committee the relative Proportion which the criminal Commitments bear to the Population?
The Statement before me was made from official Documents presented to Parliament, and from the Tables of criminal Commitments.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

"The relative Proportion which the criminal Commitments bear to the Population varies considerably in different Parts of the United Kingdom. According to the Census of 1831, the Number of criminal Offenders committed to the several Prisons in England is found to be in the Proportion of One to 740 Inhabitants; but in Wales, where the Number of Crimes has always been comparatively small, there has been only One Criminal to 2,320 Inhabitants. In Scotland the Proportion is about One to 1,130; while in Ireland, where the Number of Offenders has been greatly on the Increase, the Proportion is One to 490 Inhabitants. There is also a material Difference in the Proportion of Crimes in different Counties, a Circumstance mainly attributable to local Causes affecting the Condition of the Population. In England, throughout the Home Counties, as well as in the Manufacturing Districts, where the Inhabitants are congregated in large Bodies, the Number of criminal Offenders is great; thus, in London and Middlesex the Proportion of Commitments has been higher than in any other County, being One to 400 Inhabitants. In Surrey the Proportion was One to 680, in Kent One to 730, in Sussex One to 750, in Essex One to 650, in Hertfordshire One to 520. In the Manufacturing Districts (where Distress has prevailed to a considerable Extent) the Proportion is also large, being in Lancashire One to 650, in Warwickshire One to 480, in Gloucester One to 540, in Nottingham One to 750, in Cheshire One to 630; but in the more remote Counties, where the Inhabitants are dispersed in small Towns and Villages, the Proportion is small,—that of Northumberland being only One to 2,700, in Westmorland One to 2,500, in Durham One to 2,460, and in Cornwall One to 1,600.

In Scotland, although (as before stated) the average Number of criminal Commitments is comparatively small, yet it appears that in the Metropolis and large Manufacturing Districts the Proportion is nearly as high as in England; thus, the County of Edinburgh has the greatest Number of Criminals, the Proportion there being One to 540 Inhabitants, and in Lanark, the most populous County, the Proportion is One to 600. In Ireland the highest Proportion of Crime is in the City of Dublin, where there has been One Criminal to Ninety-six Inhabitants, in the City of Waterford the Proportion was One to 125. Of the Irish Counties, that which had the largest Proportion of Criminals was Longford, being One to 260; the lowest Proportion was in Downshire, being One to 990.

Is there any Suggestion you would wish to make to the Committee respecting an improved System of Prison Discipline?
I am not aware that I could make any Suggestion which Mr. Hoare probably has not already made.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Monday next, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Lunæ, 6° Aprilis 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Evidence on Gaols.

ORDER read, referring to this Committee Copies of the Reports on Gaols in Scotland, made in pursuance of the Act 10 Geo. 4. Cap. 54.

The said Reports are inspected.

The Reverend WHITWORTH RUSSELL is called in, and examined as follows:

Rev. W. Russell.

You are Chaplain to the General Penitentiary at Milbank?
I am.

How long have you been so?
A little more than Five Years.

The Second Class which existed in the Year 1831 has been abolished, has it not?
So far as affects meeting together and working together in Numbers, it has been abolished.

You have had Means of confidential Communication with Prisoners during the Period of their Confinement in the Penitentiary?
I have had very extensive Communications with them, during the whole of the Time I have been Chaplain, on almost all Subjects.

You gave Evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Secondary Punishments in the Year 1831, did you not?
I did.

You then stated that from the confidential Communications which you had had with the Prisoners, that you were very much impressed with the bad Effect of the present Classification of Prisoners before Trial in our Gaols and Houses of Correction; do you retain that Opinion?
I retain the Opinion I then expressed, and all my Experience has gone to confirm it.

You believe that many become much worse after they come into Gaol than they were when they were first committed?
I might almost venture to say all become worse in some way or other.

Do you not think that if any Plan could be adopted by which Persons previous to Trial should be separated from the others it would have a very good Effect?
I think it would get rid of nearly all those Causes to which I attribute their becoming worse, in some way or other, by entering a Gaol.

If there were not Space in the Prison to appoint to each Man a separate Cell, do you think enforcing Silence would have some Effect in preventing the Demoralization which takes place at present?
If Silence could be enforced, it certainly would. I doubt very much—and I form this Opinion from long Acquaintance with the Habits of Prisoners—I doubt very much whether any practical Plan could be suggested by which Silence could be enforced, if Prisoners are together in the same Apartment. I doubt whether Silence can ever be enforced by any System of Superintendence or Supervision, if Prisoners are associated together in the same Apartment.

Rev. W. Russell.

Though it might be very difficult to enforce complete Silence, do you not think that by doing away with Day-rooms, and other Regulations of that Kind, a great deal more Silence might be obtained?

Undoubtedly, a great deal more Silence; and a great deal less Mischief would be the Consequence of such Changes.

Have you not understood from Prisoners frequently that, in the Day-rooms in the several Gaols and Houses of Correction in England, they talk over their former Exploits, and, on many Occasions, lay Plans for new Robberies?

I have had many Circumstances communicated to me of that Nature. This very Morning one of the Prisoners came to ask me to write a Letter to his Friends; he had recently come from Stafford Gaol. I asked him what was the State of the Prisoners before Trial in Stafford Gaol? His Answer was, that from Thirty to Fifty were associated together before Trial, of all Ages, all Kinds and Degrees of Crimes; and that he had seen Men, who had come into that Prison perfectly unacquainted with all the Art and Science of Crime, quit that Gaol as well informed as the most experienced London Thief. I then asked him what took place after Trial; and his Answer was, that after Trial they were from Ten to Twenty together in the Day-rooms, where they have an Opportunity of communicating unreservedly; and that the same System of Instruction in Crime, the same Conversation as to their former Exploits, and as to the best Modes of perpetrating Crime and escaping Detection, went on daily. His Observation was, "They are herded together like a Flock of Sheep." It was quite accidental the Man coming to me this Morning; but having received an Intimation that I was to attend this Committee, I was induced to ask him the Questions, not knowing previously the Prison from which he came.

Did he state whether Prisoners under Sentence and those who were to be tried were together in the same Apartments?

That they were separated. His Statements related to Two different Periods of Time, before and after Trial.

Have you, in your Communications with the Prisoners, at various Times since you have held the Office you hold now, heard the Prisoners deeply regret their having been placed with others of a worse Character, which led them to commit the Crimes for which they were suffering in the Penitentiary?

I have heard them regret that they ever were associated with such Characters as they met with in the Gaols, and that they felt they had become much more degraded and much worse by their Intercourse with them; but I never heard them attribute the Offences for which they were in the Penitentiary to their Association with the bad Characters in Prisons.

You are decidedly of opinion now, as you were in the Year 1831, that the Day-rooms ought to be abolished?

I am of opinion that they ought to be abolished, and, as far as is possible, Separation and Silence should be enforced; the Separation as complete as it can be; and, when Separation cannot be effected, Silence as far as is practicable.

You refer to the Time before Trial?

If I could separate the Prisoners, by confining each in a separate Apartment, so that they could not communicate together, I then would not restrain them before Trial; they might talk to such Friends as were permitted to visit them.

After Trial you would prevent their speaking?

Yes; after Trial I would impose Silence as a Punishment, but before Trial merely as a Security to the Individual and to the Public.

You would secure the comparatively innocent Man from the Contamination of the more depraved Scoundrel?

Yes; I would do him as little Injury as possible, by the necessary Withdrawal of him from his Place in Society.

Where it is impracticable from the State of the Gaol to have a separate Apartment for each Prisoner before Trial, are you still inclined to recommend Silence in the Case of Prisoners under those Circumstances?

If they are associated together I should certainly recommend Silence.

37

Rev. W. Russell.

Before Trial?
Yes.

Would not that be, in your Consideration, an actual Punishment of a very severe Nature, in many Instances, upon the Individual?
I am very much disposed to answer that Question in the same way in which I answered a similar Question of the Committee of the House of Commons, "Do you not inflict an actual Punishment by associating a probably innocent Man with depraved Characters? Do you not, by withdrawing a Man from his Home, and shutting him in Gaol, inflict an actual Punishment?" It is a necessary Punishment in the one Instance, and I am disposed to reason that Silence is as necessary a Punishment in the other. It is for the Safety of the Individual and for the Security of the Public, that Places of Confinement for Prisoners before Trial should not be converted into Schools for Crime. If a Man is innocent, it is our Duty to take every possible Precaution that he may remain so. I should therefore argue that Silence is a necessary Part of that Punishment which is necessarily inflicted.

Would it not be considered by the Individuals in question a very great Aggravation of that necessary Punishment which the Law creates?
It would be considered a very severe Punishment by the depraved; but I think it would be considered a very great Diminution of Punishment by Men of good Habits and not of depraved Minds.

You conceive that if an Individual has been sent to Prison charged with an Offence, of which he feels himself really innocent, if he is not in any-wise a depraved Character, such an Individual placed under the Circumstances you mention along with others, but forbidden to speak, would not conceive himself additionally punished by that Direction?
I think he would not only not consider himself additionally punished, but that, in being restricted from speaking, he would consider he paid a very small Price for the Advantage of being protected from hearing that to which he must be exposed, if such Characters with whom he must be associated in Prisons are permitted to speak.

You have stated that you conceive it next to impossible to enforce Silence in Prisons?
I have.

Do you say that from any Experience in those Prisons where the Attempts have already been made?
Having heard the Means they take to obtain Silence, and knowing the Value of those Means, I have formed the Opinion which I have expressed. They employ, as I understand, Prisoners as Monitors, who are to be in the Rooms and Yards with the Prisoners, who are to be restrained by them from speaking. My Experience of Prisoners goes to this Point, that they will never be untrue to their own Body; and that the Men who are to be depended upon for every other Circumstance, are not to be depended upon for that. In the General Penitentiary, of which I have been Chaplain now for Five Years, we have constantly Reports; we have almost daily Investigation of those Reports; the most trifling are closely investigated by the Governor; Prisoners are brought forward as Witnesses, who are in Situations of superior Trust, Comfort, and Emolument, and who, if found wanting in Truth, will be removed from those Situations, lose their extra Comforts and their additional Liberty, will be subjected to the Punishments of the Prison, and will have the Duration of their Imprisonment extended; yet almost invariably they will risk all this, and defend as much as possible their Fellow Prisoners; and this extends over an immense Number of Reports, through a Period of Five Years. I do not think, therefore, I arrive at this Conclusion, that Prisoners are not to be depended upon, without having some good Grounds on which to form my Opinion.

Have you had any Persons introduced into the Penitentiary, from Prisons where they have attempted to enforce Silence?
Yes, several.

From any Inquiries you have made of those Prisoners, are you at all con-

Rev. W. Russell.

firmed in your Opinion, that Silence is not enforced effectually in the Prisons from which they came?

I have not made any particular Inquiries on that Point.

Do you think, in Prisons where Prisoners are appointed Monitors and have the Duty of enforcing Silence on others, as, in case of Removal from that Office, the Monitors would be subject to the same Discipline as those whom they are appointed to look after, they would not be unwilling to submit themselves to such an uncomfortable Discipline?

I think that they would not consider whether they would subject themselves to that uncomfortable Discipline or not; they would do what Prisoners generally do—run the Risk of not being detected; it is their Principle to calculate Chances; and if there is One in Ten thousand in their Favour, they will go upon that One. There is another Thing which I think your Lordships should take into your Consideration, which is, the Irksomeness of perpetual Silence for Years; what an Inducement is there for Men to run any Risk, if there is a Possibility of breaking through that Silence? I would also suggest that this Monitor must sleep; and that, during the Time he is asleep, there is an Inducement to those who are desirous of communicating, to keep awake for that Purpose. There are other Means of communicating besides speaking; they can communicate with their Hands; they can communicate by Signs; they can communicate in Whispers; they can speak, even without the Person looking at them seeing the Motion of the Lip; nobody but those who are acquainted with the Habits of Prisoners can tell what they are capable of doing; and, as a blind Man has the Means of guiding himself without the Use of his Eyes, and a deaf Man has the Means of supplying the Deficiency of hearing, so, if one Means of communicating is cut off, the Ingenuity of Man will provide another.

Supposing it to be impracticable to enforce Silence to the full Extent, what Measures do you think it might be expedient to resort to to enforce it to the greatest Extent possible?

I venture to submit that it would be desirable to lay down as perfect a System of Prison Discipline as possibly can be devised, perfect as to the Structure of the Prison, perfect as to the Government and the Regulation of it; and to direct that every Sum that shall hereafter be laid out, either in improving, enlarging, or rebuilding, shall be expended with a View to that Plan; and that whilst it is gradually working its Way, the best Means to mitigate the present Evils must be adopted; admitting still that they are Evils, and desiring to get rid of them as fast as possible; 'till that Time it will be advisable to have all practical Restraints placed upon the Prisoners. But further, as to the Employment of Monitors, I think there is an Evil in addition to their failing to restrain Communications. I started with saying, I did not think they were effectual for the Purpose for which they were appointed; they are enabled, by the Confidence reposed in them, to extend very widely Communications through the Prison; so much Confidence is reposed in them, and they are enabled to do that which no other Prisoner can do; if a Monitor is disposed, he may carry on Communications from one End of the Prison to the other, and that almost a permitted Communication.

Do you believe that to exist in point of fact?

By the Confidence reposed in the Monitor, it may, and, in point of fact, I believe it does. Not only do I believe the Evils arising from Communication will remain nearly as great as they were before, but this additional Evil will be produced; Confidence will be reposed in these Prisoners, who, as I said before, will be enabled to do that which others are not able to do; the Authority of the Officers may be considerably diminished; a Sort of Familiarity may grow up between the Monitors and the inferior Officers. It is almost impossible that they can resist having a Sort of Regard and kindly Feeling towards those with whom they constantly communicate, and they will be sometimes tempted to depart from their Duty; they will be led to do for the Monitors, who are a Sort of Sub-officers, that which is in direct Opposition to the Prison Regulations; to introduce prohibited Articles; to carry on Communication with their Friends outside; and the Introduction of a new Series of Evils must be the almost inevitable Consequence of the Employment of Prisoners as Monitors.

Do you speak at all from the Evidence of Facts, when you say you think that the Monitors may so grossly abuse the Trust reposed in them?

I do not speak from the Knowledge of what the Monitors do in other Prisons; but I do speak from what I see in the Wardsmen in our own Prison, who are in somewhat similar Situations.

You speak of the Construction of Prisons to carry into effect, as strictly as possible, the Enforcement of Silence; what Sort of Construction do you refer to?

A separate Cell for each Prisoner.

Do you think that the Use of separate Cells at Night would enable you to enforce the Practice of Silence to a greater Extent in the Daytime, or for a longer Period?

I think not; I think, if Prisoners are brought together in the Daytime, they will communicate in the Daytime.

You would propose that the Moment a Man came from Work he should be locked up in a separate Cell in the Daytime?

Invariably; the Moment he comes from his Work, (and that Work should be such that he may be kept as separate as if in his distinct Cell,) that he should be returned to his separate Cell; I think there is no other Means of enforcing Silence but that.

You think that Silence cannot be effectually enforced at all, except in solitary Cells?

Except in separate Cells. Solitary I conceive something infinitely greater than that now spoken of; Solitude is a very different Thing from Separation.

Do you refer to Cells in which Prisoners can speak to one another?

No, in which they cannot speak to one another; but then they are drawn together in Bodies to work, that breaks the Solitude; they communicate with the Officers, that breaks the Solitude; they are conscious that there is a Man in the next Cell to them, and that breaks the Solitude. The full Effects of Solitude can never be produced upon the Mind and the Constitution of a Man who feels that he is surrounded by his Fellow Creatures. He is permitted Opportunities of communicating with the Governor, Chaplain, and Surgeon, and of speaking to the Officers immediately in charge of him, and from Time to Time seeing his Fellow Prisoners, and working together with them.

You have never found any Harm resulting to the Minds of Prisoners from their being confined in separate Cells in which they had no Power of communicating with their Fellow Prisoners?

I have never seen it tried.

Is it not the Fact that they are confined in separate Cells in the Penitentiary, where they cannot communicate with their Fellow Prisoners?

They can communicate with their Fellow Prisoners, and they do communicate with them. Our Object is to prevent Communication, but they do communicate with their Fellow Prisoners.

Do you mean during the Time they are in those Cells?

Yes.

Have the Goodness to explain how that is?

In the first place, there is a Wardsman and Trades Instructor to each Ward (the Wardsman, I conceive, is something like the Monitor just referred to). The Wardsman and the Trades Instructor are both Prisoners; they have the Range of all the Ward to which they belong, and may communicate with the several Prisoners in that Ward; the Doors of the Cells are, some of them, within about a Foot and a Half from each other (I think the Thickness of the Wall is about a Foot); the Prisoner by standing at the Gate of his Cell, the Wooden Door of which is shut only at Night, can make himself heard by the Prisoner in the next Cell in a Whisper; during the Time the Officer is at one Part of the Ward, the Prisoners at the other Part of the Ward may be standing at their Cell Gates, and talking to each other; there is no means of preventing this, for when the Officer is coming down the Ward, his Footstep is sufficient to apprize the Prisoners that he is coming; but even if he were to

Rev. W. Russell.

wear List Shoes, the Wardsman and the Instructor by giving the slightest Signal (a Hem or a Touch of the Floor with his Foot), apprizes his Fellow Prisoners that the Officer is coming, and all is quiet, and they return to their Work. After they are locked up at Night, they can communicate through the Windows; in the Stillness of the Ward (our Walls not being so thick as they ought to have been to effect complete Separation) they can talk from their Cells; there is another Mode—by the Ventilators which are let into the Walls for ventilating the Cells; these communicate with Two Cells, so that by whispering into the Ventilator, they may be heard in the next Cell; so that it will appear our Separation is not Separation, and Communication is kept up constantly. If your Lordships would examine the Building, you would see at once the Accuracy of my Statement, that they can communicate constantly in those Cells which appear to be separate Cells.

That is the Case in all your Cells in the Penitentiary?
It is.

You say the Doors are only shut at Night; you mean the Wooden Doors, the Iron Gates are only open Railings?
Yes, and necessarily so for Ventilation; but even when the Wooden Doors are closed, they can make themselves heard through the Wall.

The Regulation of Silence is one of the Regulations of the Penitentiary?
Yes, and it is enforced as far as it can be; it is always at their Peril that Prisoners speak.

You have a School in the Penitentiary?
We have.

You have occasionally Children of all Ages confined there?
We have some of the Age of Ten at present; we have Prisoners from the Age of Ten up to that of Sixty.

Should you not consider the System of Silence, if it could be carried to the Extent which is considered desirable, incompatible with the Use of Schools?
Undoubtedly; Silence is broken every Time that a Person is called upon to read.

Do you not consider that the System of Silence, whatever Benefit may be attached to it, would be counteracted by the Loss that would be sustained by the Abolition of the School?
I never contemplate the Abolition of the School. I do not consider that the Communication which must take place between the Prisoners when they are collected together for Instruction as an Infringement of the Regulation; and even if this Infringement of Silence be a Solace and a Mitigation of Punishment, it would be more than counterbalanced by the Advantages derived from Instruction. No System can be effectual without the Application of unremitted Religious and Moral Instruction. I consider it to be altogether hopeless to attempt any thing like Reformation without it. Prisoners may be corrected and deterred, but they will never be reformed without Religious Instruction.

Do you not consider that the System of Silence being introduced would rather tend to increase the Benefit of the Schools, by giving a greater Opportunity to the Persons to break Silence?
I conceive that they would much more gratefully receive Instruction in consequence.

And that the School would be therefore more likely to be beneficial than it otherwise would be?
I do; and I beg to observe it would not diminish the deterring Influence on those outside the Prison; because they would not consider it any great Boon that they should be permitted to go to School, or to receive Religious Instruction; it would be considered as a Boon only to those who were already in the Prison.

Though it may be very difficult to enforce actual Silence upon every Occasion, are you not of opinion that it is very desirable to enforce it as much as possible?
Decidedly.

There

41

There would be no Hope of preventing Prisoners communicating in the Gaols but by abolishing the Day-rooms; the Prisoners should not be allowed to recount their Exploits, which is highly injurious to them? *Rev. W. Russell.*

Yes, to a very great Extent.

You are an Advocate for carrying the System of Silence to the greatest Extent to which it can be carried?

Decidedly; I am an Advocate for it to the greatest Extent to which it can be carried, and 'till some better Means can be provided, that alluded to—a System of Monitors—may perhaps be tried, though I am very averse to it.

You would strongly recommend enacting Silence to the greatest Extent that may be possible?

Undoubtedly so.

As the Means of preventing the more experienced Thieves from contaminating those who are comparatively innocent?

Not only to prevent the more experienced Thieves from contaminating others; but for giving the Prisoners more Opportunities of Reflection, depriving them of those Means they now have of solacing themselves with Companions of similar Tastes and Habits, and driving away serious Thought, and also with a view of deterring others from entering a Situation where they will be subject to so serious a Privation; in every Way I consider it of Importance.

You have drawn up some Observations on Mr. Crawford's Report, have you not?

I have.

The same are delivered in and read, and are as follow:

OBSERVATIONS on Mr. CRAWFORD'S REPORT on the AMERICAN PENITENTIARIES, especially on that Part of it which relates to the System adopted in the Eastern Penitentiary at Philadelphia; and as to whether the Adoption of such a System appears advisable or practicable in the MILBANK PENITENTIARY.

Having carefully considered Mr. Crawford's Report on the Penitentiaries of the United States, it appears to me that there are several valuable Recommendations in it which might be advantageously adopted in the Milbank Penitentiary, and other Prisons of the Empire; though there are serious, and, I think, insurmountable Obstacles to the Adoption of the entire System as actually in force in the Eastern Penitentiary at Philadelphia.

The Object of a Penitentiary System is as well to reform the Offender as to deter from Crime. *Object of a Penitentiary System.*

For deterring the Offender, as well as others, from Crime, the most powerful Agent in Mr. Crawford's Opinion (in which I entirely coincide) is the Dread of solitary Imprisonment. In Page 10 of the Appendix to his Report, he states that the Discipline of strict Solitude for long Periods is regarded with a Dread which is inspired by no other Species of Prison Management.

Speaking of the Inmates of the Eastern Penitentiary, he says, "They invariably concurred in the Conviction, that Solitude was of all Punishments the most fearful; and declared that if ever they were liberated, they should never be found again within those Walls." *Appendix, p. 10.*

For reforming the Individual, the best Agents in his Opinion (in which also I entirely agree with him) are the greatest practicable Degree of Solitude, coupled with systematic Religious Instruction. After describing the Advantages to be derived from solitary Imprisonment, he says, "The Law authorizes the Appointment of a Chaplain, but makes no pecuniary Provision for his Support. But Clergymen gratuitously afford their Assistance by the Performance of Divine Worship; but valuable as are these Services, however desultory, their Benefits are but partial and temporary, and utterly inadequate as a Substitute for a systematic and unremitted Course of Religious Instruction." *Report, p. 12.*

Again he says, "As personal Reformation, to be permanent, must be founded upon Christian Principles, so no System of Prison Discipline can be effectual, in which Religious Instruction does not form a prominent Part." Now, in the first place, I consider the Eastern Penitentiary System as unfit to be adopted in this Penitentiary, because it insists upon a Degree of Solitude and Separation, which is totally incompatible with systematic Religious Instruction. *Report, p. 39.*

Before, however, attempting to demonstrate this Incompatibility, I am desirous of stating my Reasons for considering Religious Instruction an indispensable Branch of a Penitentiary System, and that no Scheme of Prison Discipline defective in this Point ought ever to be adopted.

It is, I apprehend, the Duty of the State to provide Religious Instruction for all who stand in need of it; and in proportion to the Ignorance and Degradation of the Individual, does this Duty become the more incumbent. *Duty to provide Religious Instruction.*

Rev. W. Russell.

Report, pp. 39 & 40.

Mr. Crawford says, "Whatever Necessity prevails in the World at large for Moral Education and Religious Instruction is immeasurably increased in a Prison by the Characters and Habits of its Inmates; no Human Being, however hardened, can be so debased by Guilt as to justify the Withdrawal of the Means which are necessary for his Moral Restoration."

The Right of Society to inflict Capital Punishment in any Case has been often called in question. And why? Not so much, I apprehend, because of the immediate Injury which consists in the Loss of Animal Life, as because this may involve an Injury of a yet more awful Nature. Now, not to provide Religious Instruction for a Human Being, probably ignorant and hardened, whom you have debarred from the Possibility of seeking or obtaining it elsewhere, is to cut off, in a Religious Sense, so many Years, and perhaps the entire Residue, of his Life, and seems to fall equally within the Principle.

Religious Instruction the best Instrument of Reformation.

Report, p. 12.

But, moreover, one of our essential Objects is to reform, and Religious Instruction is the best Instrument of Reformation, especially acting under the favourable Circumstances of recent Withdrawal from Temptation, and Opportunity of Reflection.

Mr. Crawford says, "Day after Day, with no Companions but his Thoughts, the Convict is compelled to reflect and listen to the Reproofs of Conscience. He is led to dwell upon past Errors, and to cherish whatever better Feelings he may at any Time have imbibed."

It is then that the Prisoner most regrets his Folly and his Crime; he is then most likely to be awakened to a Sense of his Condition, and inclined to serious Thought; it is then, if at any Time, that he will be full of virtuous Resolutions; but this State of Mind is transient, and his Reformation will not be permanent, unless it be founded on Christian Principles.

Of what Religious Instruction should consist.

But considering the gross Ignorance in Religion of almost the whole of those with whom we have to do within the Penitentiary, no mere Acts or Offices of Religion, such as Prayer, Exhortation, or Spiritual Advice, can be productive of much permanent Good. Exhortation and Admonition soon lose their Influence; and those to whom they are addressed become cold and insensible under the most moving Appeals, unless their Minds be enlightened by a Course of systematic Instruction in the Doctrines, Duties, and Privileges set forth in the Holy Scriptures. It is difficult for any who have not had painful Experience in these Matters to conceive how totally uninitiated in Scriptural Truths (upon the previous Knowledge of which the Efficacy of all Religious Offices must depend) the Inmates of a Penitentiary almost universally prove to be. To such Persons the very Elements of Christian Knowledge are absolutely unknown, and therefore upon them the ordinary Forms of Scriptural Exhortation are wholly inefficacious. My own Experience and Observation uniformly attest the Truth of this important Position:—that unless a solid Foundation be laid for Religious Exhortation in a Knowledge of the great Principles of the Christian Faith, the most persevering Efforts of the Christian Minister will prove unavailing. It is this alone which, under the Divine Blessing, can give him Encouragement to hope that his subsequent and ordinary Labours may be the Means of leading to the permanent Reformation of the Convict. But Instruction cannot be communicated by mere Worship on the Sunday, nor yet by private Visits from Cell to Cell, (which is the Plan upon which alone Religious Instruction is conveyed in the Eastern Penitentiary,) as I shall endeavour to show by the following Remarks:—Suppose a Chaplain having Six hundred Prisoners under his Care were to devote Eight Hours each Day to private Visits from Cell to Cell, (which would be a greater Number of Hours than the Duration of Daylight in some Months of the Year would permit, and a greater Degree of physical Exertion than almost any Constitution would be equal to, considering that during the whole of the Time he must be engaged in earnestly and anxiously addressing his Charges, not forgetting also the Time and the Labour for Preparation for the Sabbath Duties, for the daily Attendance upon the Sick, and the many other Claims upon the Chaplain's Time and Attention,) yet these Eight Hours daily would afford little more than One Quarter of an Hour to each Prisoner once in each Month,— a Time totally inadequate for the Purpose of systematic and unremitted Instruction. But allowing One Hour per Week to each Prisoner, (a Period altogether too short for such a Course of Instruction as may lead to permanent Reformation,) a Chaplain, devoting the same Number of Hours, namely, Eight daily, would only be enabled to instruct Forty-eight Prisoners, secluded after the Manner of the Eastern Penitentiary. By this Arrangement, more than Twelve Chaplains would be required for this Institution, with its present Number of Inmates; and from Twenty to Twenty-four, if the Complement of Prisoners were made up; and, setting aside the Question of Expense, where, with such a Multitude of Teachers, would be the Uniformity of System, and what a heterogeneous Mass of Doctrine would inevitably be introduced! If therefore effectual Religious Instruction is to be given, and if Religious Instruction, to be effectual, must needs be systematic and unremitted, Convicts must be brought together in Classes; a Circumstance which at once shows the Impracticability of the System of Seclusion and Separation aimed at in the Eastern Penitentiary.

Plan of Religious Instruction adopted in the General Penitentiary.

The Plan at present adopted in this Penitentiary, and carried into execution by the Chaplain and Schoolmaster, is, I submit, in this respect, the best. Classes of the Prisoners are assembled together, and Six Hours of Instruction per Week are given to each Convict, in addition to his attending Divine Service once each Sunday, and the Course of Instruction pursued is made to bear upon a regular System of Divine Truth. By the Attendance of Three or more Officers whenever these Classes are assembled, and by the Presence of either the Chaplain or Schoolmaster, the Prisoners are so constantly and closely superin-

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43

tended as to prevent clandestine Intercourse from taking place; and if Contamination do take place from this assembling of the Prisoners, it must be owing to gross Neglect of Duty on the Part of the Superintendents. *Rev. W. Russell.*

It must be admitted that these occasional Associations somewhat diminish the Rigor of Imprisonment, but it should be remembered that the Object of a Penitentiary System is to reform as well as to deter; and if the Opportunities of receiving Religious Instruction were the only Seasons when the Rigor of Imprisonment was abated, and the otherwise uniform Gloom of the Prison cheered, it would be offering Religion in a most winning Form to these degraded and unhappy Men, and it would, therefore, be more than an Equivalent for the occasional Relaxation of Punishment. And to the Class of People outside the Prison, who are likely to be tempted to Crime from a Mitigation of the Horror of solitary Confinement, the Substitution of One Hour per Day of Religious Instruction will not, I think, appear in the Light of any great Boon.

For these Reasons, I submit, that the System adopted in the Eastern Penitentiary does not appear advisable or practicable in the Milbank Penitentiary.

Another Reason for which I think that the System of the Eastern Penitentiary would be inapplicable here, is founded on Considerations respecting the Health of the Prisoners. Health.

At Page 13 of Mr. Crawford's Report there is the following Table, showing the Average of Deaths during the Four Years in which the Eastern Penitentiary has been established:—

Year.	Number of Prisoners.	Deaths.	Proportion.
1830	31	1	3 per Cent.
1831	67	4	6 —
1832	91	4	$4\frac{1}{4}$ —
1833	123	1	$\frac{3}{4}$ —

In the last Year the Proportion was less than 1 per Cent. The Average of the Four Years is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.

The following Table shows the same Average as respects the Milbank Penitentiary; but an Item must be taken into our Calculation (that of Recommendations to Pardon upon Medical Grounds), which does not enter into the Average of the Eastern Penitentiary, either because such a Power is not possessed by the Authorities of that Institution, or the Exercise of it has not been called for.

A Table, showing the Average Number of Male Prisoners in the Institution, together with the Number of Deaths, Discharges on Medical Grounds, and Average Number of Sick in the Infirmaries, for the Years 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, and 1834.

Year.	Average Number of Prisoners in the Institution.	Number of Deaths.	Number discharged by Medical Recommendation.	Average Number of Sick in the Infirmaries.
1830	458	10	11	27
1831	394	5	6	20
1832	386	17	26	27
1833	443	8	13	25
1834	522	15	13	17

A Table, showing the Average Number of Deaths, Medical Recommendations, Sick in the Infirmaries, &c. per Cent., in the Years 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, and 1834.

Year.	Average Number of Deaths.	Number of Deaths and Medical Recommendations together.	Number of Sick in the Infirmaries.	Total Average of the Five Years together.		
				Deaths.	Deaths and Medical Recommendations together.	Sick in the Infirmaries.
	Per Cent.	*Per Cent.*	*Per Cent.*	*Per Cent.*	*Per Cent.*	*Per Cent*
1830	$2\frac{1}{5}$	$4\frac{3}{5}$	$5\frac{7}{8}$			
1831	$1\frac{2}{7}$	$2\frac{5}{6}$	$5\frac{1}{13}$			
1832	$4\frac{2}{5}$	$11\frac{1}{7}$	7	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{2}{3}$	$5\frac{2}{3}$
1833	$1\frac{4}{5}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$5\frac{2}{5}$			
1834	$2\frac{7}{8}$	$5\frac{3}{8}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$			

Rev. W. Russell.

I think I may attribute the more unfavourable State of the Health in this Institution to these two Causes:—

1st. The Site of the Prison.

2dly. The sedentary Habits of the Convicts, in a Situation not favourable to Health.

1st. The Site of the Millbank Penitentiary is low, immediately on the Bank of a Tide River, the Mud on the Banks of which is exposed, to a great superficial Extent, twice in every Four-and-twenty Hours, to the Operation of the Sun and Air, whence arise impure Exhalations. The Ground around the Building is marshy; the Atmosphere humid; there are frequent and dense Fogs; and in the immediate Neighbourhood are several Gas Works and Manufactories, which load the Air with Impurity and Soot.

The Site of the Eastern Penitentiary is, on the other Hand, elevated, and the Situation healthy. It is built on a gradually rising Ground, about Two Miles and a Half from the Banks of the Delaware. There is no low and marshy Ground near the Building. The Atmosphere is dry and clear; and there are no Manufactories near to impair its Salubrity. The Locality of the Eastern Penitentiary is so healthy, that it has been specially selected by the Corporation of the City of Philadelphia for the Erection of a State College, to be called Gerard College, from Stephen Gerard, a wealthy Merchant of Philadelphia, who has left an immense Fortune for its Endowment.

2dly. The sedentary Habits of the Convicts in a Situation not favourable to Health.

The Sickness which prevailed in 1822 and 1823 led to the temporary Abandonment of this Penitentiary; but it was re-occupied in August 1824. The Sickness had been observed to fall with the greatest Severity upon the Female Prisoners, and the Males of the Second Class, who had no hard Labour, and whose Habits were therefore more sedentary; and on the Re-occupation of the Prison in August 1824, by Recommendation founded upon Medical Report, the daily Labour of the Male Prisoners at the Mill and Water Machine was doubled; the Opportunity of taking Air and Exercise by working at the Mills was extended to the Male Prisoners of the Second Class, and Rollers were introduced into all the Airing Yards, by the Use of which a greater Degree of Exercise might be obtained. By these Arrangements the Health of the Institution has been considerably improved. Hence I draw this Inference, that what might be consistent in the one Case and Situation with the Maintenance of an ordinary Degree of Health, might in the other be productive of Sickness; and, I submit, that the rigid System pursued in the Eastern Penitentiary could not be adopted here without probably injurious Effects upon the Health of the Prisoners.

With these Exceptions, the more perfect the Separation of the Prisoners which can be secured the better.

Report, p. 12.

In describing the Advantages of Separation, Mr. Crawford says, "Solitary Imprisonment is not only an exemplary Punishment, but a powerful Agent in the Reformation of Morals. It inevitably tends to arrest the Progress of Corruption. In the Silence of the Cell Contamination cannot be received or imparted. The Terrors of Solitude operate most powerfully on that Class, in the Treatment of whom Severity is most desirable."

Appendix, p. 10.

"Most of the Prisoners acknowledge that the Correction was beneficial. Several contrasted the Superiority of the System, in a Moral Point of View, over that in which Prisoners are allowed to associate."

Manufactories.

In these Sentiments I entirely concur. But I fear we can never expect to enjoy any of the real Benefits belonging to complete Separation, while the present Manufacturing System (which consists almost entirely of Tailoring of the most coarse and common Kinds) prevails.

Report, p. 24.

I must here again refer to Mr. Crawford's Report. He says, "The productive Employment of Prisoners is certainly an Object of considerable Importance, and every Exertion should be made for its Accomplishment, consistently with the great Moral Purpose of a Gaol. I am, however, of Opinion, that to attain this Result too large a Sacrifice is made in some of the Penitentiaries of the United States. Various Trades are introduced, and the beneficial Arrangements neglected, solely with a view to Profit. The Objects of Punishment have been thus lost Sight of. The Gloom of the Penitentiary has been dispelled, and the Attention of the Convict distracted, by the continued Bustle and varied Occupations of the Manufactory. It is one Thing to render a Convict a skilful Mechanic, and another to induce him to become an honest Man; and the Interests of Society are injured instead of being benefited, when, for the sake of Profit, the Penalties of the Law are weakened, and the Moral Effects of Imprisonment suppressed."

Evils of the present Manufacturing System.

I have long entertained the Opinion, that by the Manufacturing System adopted in the General Penitentiary, "the Objects of Punishment are lost Sight of," "the Penalties of the Law weakened," and "the Moral Effects of the Punishment suppressed." It violates, in the first place, the Principle of Silence. The Instruction necessary for the Acquirement of a Trade, and the daily Communications needful for carrying it on, lead to constant Interruptions of Silence, dispel the Gloom of a Prison, and arrest and divert the Attention of the Convict. "But Silence should be maintained rigidly by Day and by Night. Silence is the nearest Approximation to Solitude, and is indispensable to the good Management of a Prison." "Silence is extremely favourable to Habits of Obedience, Thoughtfulness, and Industry."

Report, p. 38.

Report, p. 19.

It also violates the Principle of Separation; and, where Intercourse is suffered to exist, the most mischievous Consequences must be the Result. The great Evil, indeed, of our Manufacturing System arises from the unavoidable Intercourse which takes place between the Prisoners. The Wardsmen and Tailors Instructors, who are selected from the Prisoners,

Prisoners, enjoy during almost the entire Day the free Range of the whole Ward, and may hold uncontrolled Intercourse with each of the Prisoners; and whilst, under the Pretext of instructing and assisting in the Work, they may maintain any Intercourse themselves with their Fellow Convicts, however injurious to the Discipline or the Morality of the Institution, they may at the same Time become the Medium of Communications, alike extensive and pernicious, between the rest of the Prisoners. The Employment of Prisoners in these Situations enables them also to act as Spies upon the Officer's Movements, so as effectually to prevent him from restraining or detecting Misconduct or Irregularity. The Accounts and Writing inseparable from a Manufacturing System occupy of course a great Portion of his Time and Attention, and confine him to his Room, during which Time the Wardsman and Tailor's Instructor are left with the Prisoners, entirely free of all Control. Conversation, as might be expected, then goes on from Cell to Cell throughout the whole Ward; and if, as frequently happens, the Officer, hearing the Noise, returns into the Ward, a Signal given by the Wardsman or Tailors Instructor at once stops the Uproar and baffles the Endeavour of the Officer to detect the Transgressors; and in this Way it may almost be said that the Prisoner is the Superintendent of the Officer, rather than the Officer of him. *Rev. W. Russell.*

But although this is exceedingly obvious, yet it may be urged that Manufactures are, on many Accounts, indispensable to a Penitentiary System; that it is necessary that a Convict should possess the Means of obtaining a Livelihood at his Release from the Prison, and therefore that he should be instructed while there in some Trade. But the Fact is, that most of the Convicts have already a Trade upon their Admission, to which they will more readily return than follow the One (Tailoring) which is substituted for it during the Term of their Imprisonment; and in those Cases where the Convict has not already a Trade, it is certain the Instruction he will receive here is not such as will enable him to follow the Business of Tailoring without further Instruction; and it is a Fact well ascertained, that few appear to embrace Tailoring as a new Vocation after leaving the Penitentiary.

For our Manufactures, it may also be urged, that they are necessary to inure the Convicts to Habits of Industry. But, unfortunately, our Tailoring System has an opposite Tendency. The great Majority dawdle over their Work, and do not perform any Thing like the Quantity required of an independent Journeyman. By means of the Intercourse kept up between the Prisoners, which is extensive, they ascertain the Quantity of Work accepted from the most stupid and ill-qualified of their Body; and by doing a little more than this, they contrive to escape being reported, and, at the same Time, indulge and confirm their Disposition to Idleness. And in the Case of the Agricultural Labourer, and that numerous Class of Artisans whose Business requires Habits of bodily Exertions, the System of Tailoring here pursued is obviously the most effectual that could be conceived for enervating and incapacitating them for the Pursuit of their Calling; a most cruel Injustice is thus done that large Body of our People; a Punishment never intended by the Law is inflicted upon them; and a serious and, perhaps, lasting Injury entailed. And if Habits and Powers of corporeal Exertion and Industry are ever to be regained, it can only be by Dint of long and patient Endurance of Pain and Fatigue; and through these must the Labourers infallibly pass, after their quitting the Prison, before they can be restored to a Par with the Competitors in their different Callings. So far, therefore, from being inured to Habits of Industry by our present System, I submit that the Convict is, in most Instances, deprived of those Powers of Exertion (however insignificant they might have been) which he before possessed.

Prisoners Percentage and other Indulgences. Report, p. 40.

Connected with the Subject of Manufactures, Mr. Crawford says, "A Prisoner should not be allowed any Portion of his Earnings, the Amount of which more frequently depends on his Skill than on his Industry, those who derive the largest Portion are often far from being the most meritorious. Although the Prospect of pecuniary Reward may induce increased Exertion, the Idea of Compensation weakens the Sense and abates the Severity of Punishment. The Convict ought to be imperatively required to do that which the Law prescribes. There should be no Persuasives to Obedience in a Prison. It is not less unjustifiable to mitigate, than to aggravate, the Penalties of Justice."

My own Experience leads me entirely to accord with these Sentiments. In several Instances I have found the Prisoners complaining of the Lowness of their Earnings, as if entitled to them, somewhat after the Manner of free Labourers; and I decidedly think that this Privilege has a direct Tendency to cause them to lose Sight of their Situation as Convicts, and to forget that the whole of the Labour exacted from them, and what they are capable of performing, is Part of the Punishment they have incurred by their Offences. By this and other Indulgences, such as higher Wages and extra Supplies of Food to the Wardsmen, Tailors Instructors, Cooks, and Bakers, the salutary Terror of the Prison is impaired; the Principle that the Rigor of Imprisonment should be equal, certain, and unremitted, is destroyed. The Prisoners, in many Cases, become vain, dissatisfied, and refractory; they think themselves injured, because their Emoluments are not higher; they do not consider themselves so much under the equal Laws of their Country, as subjected to the Caprice of Individuals, who may advance and reward one Prisoner, and pass over and neglect another; and to quote the Language of one of our late Prisoners, in writing to me on this Subject, "Thus do they justify themselves in thwarting the Measures of this Place, in seeking to calumniate all that is good, and to aggravate all that is bad."

Rev. W. Russell.

Officers Per-centage.

The Per-centage too which Officers receive is very injurious. It leads to Favouritism with all its Evils, to the Encouragement of the most skilful, rather than of the meritorous and best behaved; it diminishes the Influence of the Officer when inciting to Industry, whose own Gain is supposed to be the Motive; in some Cases it leads the Officer to hurry and harass the stupid and inefficient beyond their Powers of Exertion, by the Threat of a Report for Idleness; and the following Incident, communicated to me by a discharged Prisoner, in whose Veracity I have the greatest Confidence, will show the still greater Evil to which this Per-centage may lead. A Prisoner was observed, during his Meal-time, reading his Bible; the Officer asked him, "Why he did not work, as that would gain him something?" The Prisoner replied, "That he read in his Bible that Godliness is great Gain." The Officer said, "I hope you will not find yourself mistaken; Work is sure Gain, the Bible is uncertain Gain."

Proposed Remedies.

For all these Reasons, I do not hesitate to say that our Manufactures, in my Opinion, decidedly tend to counteract the great Objects of a Penitentiary System. In alluding to these Disadvantages, I have studiously endeavoured to avoid Exaggeration, from a Consciousness of the exceeding Difficulty of proposing any satisfactory Remedy. One main Root of the Evil in this Part of our Establishment is the necessary Employment of Prisoners as Wardsmen and Tailors Instructors, as has been before stated. But let the Manufacture be in other respects what it may, still so long as the Prisoners shall require Instruction, and individual Superintendence to work at it, there will be no Possibility, as far as I can see, of removing the Evil, except by the Appointment of Officers to perform the Duties now discharged by the Wardsmen and Tailors Instructors, and this could not be effected without such an additional Expense as would form an insuperable Obstacle to the Alteration. But even if this Difficulty could be obviated, it is my Opinion, (in which Mr. Crawford entirely concurs,) that Manufactures, under any Circumstances, are highly injurious to the main Objects of a Penitentiary System. The constant Intercourse necessary for the teaching and carrying on of a Trade leads to the frequent Interruption of the Silence and Seclusion of the Prison, and to the gradual Forming of Intimacies and Familiarities between the Prisoners and the inferior Officers, often ending in the Officers becoming in League with the Prisoner, and not unfrequently completely in his Power. Thus the Prison in effect becomes a great Manufactory; the Bustle and Variety have a Tendency to give much Excitement to the Prisoner, and to blunt or eradicate that salutary Sense of the penal and disgraceful Nature of his Situation, which all his Employments and Treatment within the Walls of a Prison should awaken and keep up in his Mind. Thus is the main Design of this Establishment most effectually frustrated; all Incentives to serious Reflection are withdrawn; the whole System most mischievously acts as an Opiate upon the Conscience; and the great Work of Reformation is cruelly defeated.

On the other hand, the Prisoners must be provided with Work of some Description; and it is natural in this Dilemma to look around and inquire what Methods are adopted in other Prisons. In the American Penitentiaries, Manufactures universally prevail, because, as Mr. Crawford states, the profitable Labour of the Prisoners is, in fact, the popular Feature of their Management, and various Trades are introduced solely with a view to Profit, whilst the Objects of Punishment are thus lost Sight of. But in our own Prisons the Treadwheel is almost universally in operation, and though considering that our Institution differs somewhat from other Prisons, I should deem myself guilty of precipitate Reasoning if I were to infer that because Experience has borne Testimony to its Efficacy in other Prisons, it must therefore necessarily answer in this; yet it is very possible to point out several Advantages which would accrue from such a Method of employing the Prisoners here, and I am much disposed to recommend its Adoption in this Institution. The Separation of the Prisoners, upon which too much Stress cannot be laid, would be complete and effectual. By adopting the Contrivance employed in the Gloucester and Bedford Gaols, of having the Treadwheel fitted up with separate Compartments for each Prisoner, and by having similar Divisions to the Bench upon which the Portion of Prisoners off the Wheel take in turn their Rest, they would be prevented from communicating even in a Whisper, and thus the Silence would be uninterrupted. The employing Prisoners as Wardsmen and Tailors Instructors might be entirely dispensed with. When in their Wards, each Prisoner would be kept locked and bolted up, thus the constant Communications now going on there would be cut off. The Health of the Institution would be better preserved, as the Prisoners would be daily employed for a certain Number of Hours in the open Air, instead of being confined to their Cells, and kept to the sedentary Employ of Tailoring. The Agricultural Labourer, the Carpenter, Smith, and other hard-working Artisans, would be maintained in their Habits of Labour, and the Prisoners generally, by being kept to a Work from which they could not flinch, would, I believe, be more likely to acquire those Habits of Activity which are essential to the Pursuit of an honest Course of Life, and be preserved from falling into those Habits of Indolence and Inactivity, too likely to be the Result of their present Mode of Employment. The Officer, having nothing to attend to but the Maintenance of Order and Silence among the Prisoners, would be enabled to give undivided Attention to his Charge, and a much more effectual Superintendence could thus be kept up. The broad Line of Distinction would be more plainly drawn between Officer and Prisoner, now too often disregarded to the Injury of both;

Report, p. 24.

The Treadwheel.

both; and the Dignity, the Vigilance, and Integrity of the Officer would be effectually preserved. But under our present System, I defy the most faithful Officer to discharge his Duties efficiently, however scrupulous may be his Adherence to the minutest Regulations of the Institution. The Men may elude his Vigilance in a Thousand Ways where they cannot overcome his Integrity. But in Systems where so many Officers are employed, you must lay your Account with finding some who are either inefficient or corrupt, and such Systems must be defective in proportion as they more or less depend for their Success on the Attention and Fidelity of inferior Officers.

Inferior Officers

In close Connexion with this Subject is a Suggestion of Mr. Crawford's, deserving of serious Consideration; it respects the Character and Ability of inferior Officers. Mr. Crawford says, "That increased Attention be paid to the Character and Ability of the subordinate Officers of Prisons. Persons appointed to these Situations should be selected from a better educated Class of Society than that from which they are now generally chosen. The Management of large Bodies of Criminals is itself a Science, and requires an Union of Firmness, Temper, and Discretion. The best System of Discipline will be of no Avail, if those to whom is confided the Execution of its Details be unable to appreciate its Merits and enforce its Regulations."

Report, p. 41.

That the Officers employed in this Prison at present are not qualified for their Office must, I think, at once be admitted from this single Fact,—the Necessity of constantly changing them; and constant Change of Officers, be it recollected, is an Evil of no small Magnitude in itself. Well-qualified Officers are so essential to the Welfare of every Prison, and so many Irregularities have been committed by those of our Establishment, or are to be traced to their Unfitness, that an Inquiry into the necessary Qualifications of the Individual for the Office, and the Class from which he should be selected, should, I submit, be instituted.

Though there are undoubtedly many most highly respectable and right-minded Men in that Class of Soldiers whence our inferior Officers are almost entirely selected, yet I cannot think that Military Men, originally drawn from the Ranks, are at all fitted for Warders in an Institution where Moral and Religious Reformation is so great an Object, and where Discipline is to be enforced as conducive thereto, as well as for Correction and Punishment.

Generally speaking, Twenty or Thirty Years of a Barrack-yard Life and Habits are not very likely to form such a Moral and Religious Character as we ought to require in an Officer of this Establishment. The Drill and other Duties of a Non-commissioned Officer have a Tendency to beget an imperious Tone, if not to harden the Heart, and when those who have been so trained become Warders, their Demeanor is not unfrequently harsh and violent towards those who are subjected to their Control.

Indulgence in Drink is another Habit too often acquired by that Class of Men, amongst whom Intoxication, except upon Duty, is not considered an Offence, I mean as far as regards the Regulations of the Profession to which they belong. A general Feeling of Disrespect exists on the Part of the Prisoners towards their Officers; they think them tyrannical and unprincipled; they say, that if a Prisoner will do a good Week's Work, so as to raise the Officer's Per-centage, he may say and do almost any thing; they assert that there are few who are not, sooner or later, in some Way or other, seduced from their Duty; and the Assertion is corroborated by the Fact that Officers have been discharged for this very Offence. They also say that the Officers are not unwilling to have it discovered that they consider the System of Instruction as formal and useless. I quote the Language of a discharged Prisoner writing to me on the Subject: "I little expected to find among the Officers Men not only indifferent but also opposed, in Principle and Practice, to the Truths of vital Religion. In a Place appropriated (as its Name implies) to Penitents, it is scarcely credible that the Officers dare act so contrary to the express Intention of the Directors of the Establishment, and also to their own Engagements, as to place every Obstacle possible in the Way of those under their Charge who show a Desire to seek the renewing, sanctifying Influence of true Religion, and are supremely anxious to obtain that Grace which will enable them to be pious and useful Members of Society, when God pleases to restore them thereto; yet, incredible as it may seem, I am sure, from my own Experience, that it is true; still, I would not say that every Officer acts so base a Part." In short, the general Opinion of the Prisoners is, that their Officers are deficient in Temper, well-regulated Habits, and correct Principles; and when so much of the Success of the Institution depends upon the inferior Officers, what incalculable Injuries do such Characters inevitably produce.

Though my Objection to Military Men, as the Class from which our Officers are to be selected, is very decided, yet I beg I may not be understood as confining my Observations to those who happen to have been Military Men; I have seen full as much Irregularity and Want of right Principle amongst the Civilians; and I beg leave to submit that higher Qualifications should be looked for than, I fear, are to be found in the great Majority of our inferior Officers, whether Civil or Military.

Qualifications of an inferior Officer.

A Warder should be a Man of clear Judgment and acute Intellect, that he may readily gain an Insight into Character, and be able to detect any Schemes which may be carrying on contrary to the Rules of the Institution.

A Warder should be a sober Man; though he may not enter the Prison in a State of Intoxication, the Prisoners soon discover if he is given to drinking, and if he is, they suspect he may be wanting in other Points of Character, and therefore are emboldened to tempt him.

Rev. W. Russell.

A Warder should be decent and decorous in his Language and Deportment; if he is otherwise, he not only loses the Respect of the Prisoners under his Charge, and becomes the Object of their Scorn, but he confirms the Convicts in their previous bad Habits.

A Warder should be a benevolent Man, that he may influence the Prisoners by Kindness, and make Allowance for the different Failings of Disposition and Temper to which every Man is subject.

A Warder should be a Religious Man; there is no other Security to preserve him from the Temptations inseparable from his Station. Few Men have greater Temptations; few Men have greater Trials of Temper; few Men can be imperious and tyrannical with greater Impunity. In a Word, no Man, who is not a Religious Man, ought to be trusted, or ought to trust himself, in such a Situation.

Though it may be difficult to procure such Officers, I do not doubt but that, by an extensive Correspondence with well-known active and pious Characters, whether Clergymen or others, in different Parts of the Kingdom, such a Class of Men might soon be found, especially from amongst the great Body of Sunday School Teachers, who are Men of such active Habits that, after the Week's close Application to Business, they devote their only Day's Rest, the Sabbath, to the fatiguing Duty of Instruction, and who know so much of the Power and Value of Religion in their own Cases, that they voluntarily and gratuitously give themselves up to the Endeavour of making it known to others; and if it were once to become generally known that such Characters are sought after and received, a Number of Candidates would soon be called forth, from whom duly-qualified Officers might be selected.

The frequent Exercise of the Privilege of Pardon.

Report, pp. 40 & 41.

Another important Suggestion of Mr. Crawford's respects the frequent Exercise of the Privilege of Pardon. Mr. Crawford recommends, "That the Sentence of the Law should not be abridged by Recommendation for Pardon in consequence of good Conduct during Imprisonment. It is important that the Prisoner should feel that there is no Alternative but to submit to the full Penalty to which the Law has sentenced him. As in no Country has the Exercise of the pardoning Power been so grossly abused as in the United States, so on no Point are the Governors of the respective Penitentiaries more unanimous than in their Condemnation of this Practice. The experienced Warden of the Eastern Penitentiary assured me, that no favourable Impression could be made on any Prisoner until the Hope of Pardon had been entirely eradicated from his Mind. The Privilege of recommending for Pardon Prisoners who have conducted themselves well during Confinement should be exercised rarely and with great Caution. It is well known that the most consummate Rogues often become, on their Commitment, the best conducted Prisoners. From the Recommendation to Pardon the worst Characters not unfrequently derive the greatest Benefit; and while the Possibility of obtaining Pardon on such a Ground exists, there will always be ample Encouragement in a Prison for every Species of hypocritical Profession. Were Pardons uniformly granted with the strictest Impartiality, and dispensed solely as Rewards for good Conduct, they would still be open to great Objection. If an Offender at large knows, that, in the event of Conviction, he can, by strict Attention to Prison Regulations, obtain an Abridgment of his Sentence, the Terrors of the Law become diminished; while during Confinement the Hope of Liberation excludes other and legitimate Motives to Obedience. Neither is the Reformation of the Offender promoted by Pardons; but even were this Effect produced, they would not be justified by other Considerations. To weaken the deterring Influence of penal Justice in order to reclaim, is to sacrifice the best Interests of Society at large for a few of the least worthy of its Members." In every Particular of this Suggestion I entirely concur. I am satisfied that the Abridgment of the Sentence, by Recommendation to Pardon for supposed good Conduct, is productive of most injurious Effects, as well to the Prisoner as to myself and the other Officers of the Institution. In Principle it is wrong. That Punishment certain in its Extent and its Duration should invariably follow Crime, is an elementary Maxim of Criminal Jurisprudence; but to pardon a Crime committed, entirely or partially, on account of subsequent good Conduct, is a Practice which strikes at the Root of all penal Discipline. By doing what he ought in one Case, Man cannot atone for doing what he ought not in another. And not only does the Exercise of Pardon defraud the Law of its just Demand upon the convicted Criminal, but it diminishes the Terror of the Law with those unconvicted, who are yet balancing the Hazard and the Horrors of Punishment against the Profit or the Pleasure of Crime; with these it adds another to the many Chances in their Favour on which they calculate, and is the Resource to which, on Failure of all others, they look for Extrication from their Difficulties; besides, by keeping the Mind of the Prisoner constantly unsettled, it retards the Work of Reformation, and is therefore continually counteracting the Objects of a Penitentiary System. It holds out a Motive and a Premium to Hypocrisy in every Form. The most crafty and unprincipled often obtain by outward Conformity to Prison Regulations the desired Recommendation to Pardon; whilst a Man who from hasty Temper infringes some minor Point of Prison Discipline miscarries.

This Power of recommending to Pardon is a Species of Patronage, descending even to the Hands of the inferior Officer immediately in Charge of the Prisoner. By either withholding or putting forward a Report as the Time of Recommendation draws near, the Officer may almost be said to grant or withhold the Pardon. There is, therefore, wide Scope for the Indulgence of Favouritism or Spite, and I have frequently seen both in Operation. To a certain Extent also it acts injuriously upon the Superiors. They cannot but be influenced

fluenced in some degree by the Consideration, that by punishing an Offence in an old Prisoner, in one, I mean, whose Time for Recommendation is drawing near, he will not only undergo the Punishment awarded by the Prison Discipline, but will also be disappointed of his Liberty; and it is therefore natural, that much should be sometimes overlooked in such a Case, which would be certainly visited with Punishment in the Case of a newly admitted Prisoner. Thus a Sense of Injustice is produced among the Prisoners by their seeing the same Offence differently treated in different Persons. One escapes, who has offended against many more Motives to good Conduct; the other is punished, who, perhaps, has been led into Error by witnessing the Impunity of some of his Companions. I am very far from saying, that such a Course is designedly pursued by any of the Superiors; but I do say that not unfrequently kindly Feelings to the Prisoner are allowed to warp our Judgment and influence our Conduct; and I respectfully submit, that no Officer, either superior or inferior, ought to be exposed to Deception, either from within or without, either from himself or others, by having it in his Power to procure for the Prisoner Indulgence, Reward, or Mitigation of Sentence.

Very nearly all the Prisoners in this Institution obtain their Liberty at the shortest Time at which they can be recommended to the Secretary of State for Pardon. It is manifest, therefore, that with us Pardon is not in reality a Reward for good Conduct; for the most sanguine Person can never be led to believe, that nearly the whole of the Prisoners of the Institution deserve their Liberty at the Period appointed for the best behaved; but nearly the whole obtain it at that Time. In our Practice, therefore, we constantly depart from our own Principle, unsound as, I think, it must be found upon close Investigation.

I therefore respectfully suggest, that the Sentences passed by the Courts of Justice should be commuted, by the Act of Parliament which regulates the Milbank Penitentiary, to those Periods of Imprisonment which it is intended the Prisoner should invariably undergo; and not, as at present, commute by Law to one Period of Imprisonment, whilst another and a shorter is to be undergone, dependent upon the Prisoner's supposed good Conduct.

And when the strict Silence and Separation, together with the hard Labour, which I have recommended, shall be enforced, with a Rigor which shall be equal, certain, and unremitted, I think that the present, viz. Three Years Imprisonment in lieu of Seven Years Transportation, Three Years and a Half in lieu of Fourteen Years Transportation, and Four Years in lieu of Transportation for Life, will be found quite effectual for the Purposes contemplated by the Institution, and afford the best Means of deterring from the Commission of Crime, while they also tend to the Reformation of the Offender.

Provision for discharged Convicts.

Report, p. 41.

Emigration.

Mr. Crawford also recommends that Arrangements should be made for enabling the Convict, on his Discharge, to earn an honest Subsistence; and after alluding to the Difficulties which Individuals tainted by Crime, and therefore shunned by Society, find in procuring Employment by which to earn a creditable Livelihood, he suggests, that the Emigration of liberated Criminals to a penal Colony should be encouraged. In this Part of his Suggestion I fully coincide. It would be a most valuable Part of the Arrangements of this Institution, if we could enable a Convict, on his Liberation, to escape from his bad Connexions, and the Temptations which inevitably beset him in this Country, by voluntary Emigration. I say voluntary, because if it be forced upon the Convict he is not likely to become a prosperous or a useful Emigrant. He will be an Injury rather than a Benefit to the Colony to which he is sent, and, sooner or later, as I am credibly informed is the Case with all unwilling Emigrants, he will find his Way back to this Country.

I am quite satisfied there are many in this Institution who would gladly avail themselves of the Opportunity of going Abroad as free Settlers, if it were offered them, rather than cast themselves upon the wide World at Home, without Friends, and without Character. It would be the Duty of the Governor, and of the Chaplain of the Institution, to endeavour to dispose the Convicts to avail themselves of such a Privilege, by pointing out the Advantages it offers to the active and well-disposed. Many, I am sure, leave these Walls with most sincere Intentions and earnest Desires of leading honest and industrious Lives; but they are reduced to abject Want, and are sorely tempted to the Repetition of Crime by their total Inability to procure Employment. Were these Men placed in Situations where Labour was abundant and productive, they would, I am persuaded, go on well. By providing for such the Means of Emigration, to Countries holding out these Advantages, a great Good will be done, as well to the Community as to the Individual; and I am disposed to think, from some Inquiry which I have already made on this Subject, that if a Communication was opened with some of the charitable Emigration Societies, the Means of sending out all those who would be willing to emigrate might be provided at very little Cost to the Government. In connexion with this Subject (the providing for discharged Prisoners) there are Two Particulars which call for a few Observations.

If it should be thought proper to do away with the Prisoners Per-centage, and not to allow them any Portion of their Earnings, it would, I think, be necessary to allow each Prisoner, when finally discharged, such a Sum of Money as will enable him to reach his Home; the Sum to be in proportion to the Distance the Individual has to travel; and by Regulation 23, under the Head Prisoners, Page 88 of the Book of Rules and Regulations of the General Penitentiary, the superintending Committee already possess a Power which enables them to do this. Indeed this Power is, even now, not unfrequently exercised; so that, although the Prisoners Per-centage be done away, he need not be finally discharged in a State of Destitution.

Rev. W. Russell.

Letters, Visits, &c.

Report, p. 40.

The other Particular has reference to the following Recommendation of Mr. Crawford: "All Letters, as well as Visits and Messages, from Friends, should be strictly prohibited under a Penalty." In this Opinion I cannot concur. As this Communication with their Friends and the World is no Doubt a considerable Solace both to the Prisoners and to their Friends, I admit that it takes away somewhat from the Rigor of the Imprisonment, and its Tendency to deter from Crime, yet the Advantages gained are, in my Opinion, so much greater than the Injury resulting from it, that I must strongly advocate the Continuance of this Indulgence. In Page 39 of his Report Mr. Crawford speaks of "the formidable Difficulties with which a discharged Criminal has to contend from the Want of Character and Friends." The Privilege of writing to or communicating with their Friends is necessary for the Removal of this Difficulty. In what other Way can they reconcile themselves to their offended Family and Connexions? In what other Way can they express that Contrition and Resolution of Amendment which must be the Groundwork of Reconciliation? Cut away the last Tie which connects the Convict with his Family, and you remove One of the strongest Inducements to Reformation. And many of the Prisoners have respectable Connexions, with whom it is most important they should be reconciled, and ultimately be reunited. I have frequently seen the greatest Advantages resulting from this Indulgence: offended Relations have been reconciled; an Interest with valuable Friends has been kept up; a Home and Employment, previous to Discharge from this Institution, have been provided. One Part of the Penitentiary System, the Reformation of the Offender, has thus been materially aided, without much Interference with the other, the deterring from Crime.

Report, p. 39.

Official Inspectors.

The last Suggestion which I take the Liberty to offer, and which I do with much Diffidence, affects the Government and Superintendence of the General Penitentiary.

I find that in most of the American Penitentiaries they have Three distinct Bodies engaged in their Management.

The Official Visitors (Report, Page 11).

The Official Inspectors (Report, Pages 10 and 11, and Appendix 9.), and the Warden and other Officers.

The Official Visitors correspond in some respects with our Superintending Committee.

The Warden and Officers with our Governor and the remaining Strength of our Establishment.

But we have not any Official Body which can be said to correspond with the Official Inspectors, or, in fact, which could discharge the important and extensive Duties of those Officers. Mr. Crawford thus describes them: "The Inspectors are required to visit the Prison at least Twice in the Week, and on those Occasions to speak to each Prisoner, and to listen to any Complaint that may be made of Oppression or Misconduct. Neither the Warden nor any of his Assistants are to be present at these Interviews, unless their Attendance be desired."

Report, pp. 10 & 11.

Appendix, p. 9.

Again he says, "In their weekly Visits, the Inspectors are required to speak to each Prisoner, unaccompanied by the Warden or any of his Officers, and to listen to any Complaints that may be made of Oppression or ill Conduct of the Persons employed in the Establishment." Again he says, "Little Confidence can be placed in any System of Regulations, unless there be a Board of Inspectors, who shall by frequent Examination ascertain that the Regulations are observed."

Appendix, p. 68.

The Importance and Necessity of such a Body in the Management of the General Penitentiary I most sensibly feel. It is obviously impossible that a Committee, composed, as is the Superintending Committee of the General Penitentiary, of Noblemen, Clergymen, and Gentlemen, who have numerous, extensive, and important Calls upon their Time and Attention, can devote themselves to the Superintendence of this vast and difficult Institution in such a Manner as efficiently and permanently to discharge the Duties which devolve upon the Official Inspectors; and yet, without such a vigilant, constant, and uniform Supervision, it is the common Nature and inevitable Tendency of all Human Institutions to fall, in some Part or other of their Workings, into Disorder, Confusion, or Decay.

The Committee recognize the Necessity of some such Officer, by the Appointment of One or more Visitors; but, for the Reasons above assigned, it is manifestly impossible for them to perform the Duties required of the Official Inspectors.

The Visitor, too, is perpetually changed; and as it must require a considerable Time before any Individual could become sufficiently acquainted with the Nature and Operation of the different Parts of the System in force, the mere Fact of the repeated Change of the Visitor must considerably diminish the Usefulness and the Influence of that Officer.

I therefore respectfully request Attention to the Character of the Official Inspectors, and the Duties they have to perform in the American Penitentiaries; and I cannot but express my sincere Wish we could have such a Body added to our present Board of Management in the General Penitentiary. Three Official Inspectors, with Seats at the Board of the Superintending Committee, with equal Weight and Influence as to Vote, &c. with the rest of that Body,—Men of Judgment, Industry, and Piety,—each required to give Two Days in each Week to the peculiar Duties of his Office as Inspector, would, I feel assured, soon cause this Institution to put on a different Appearance, and to be blessed with happier Results, supposing the Errors and the Evils which I conceive to exist in the manufacturing and other Parts of our System were previously corrected. Confidence would be inspired into the whole Body of the Prisoners, and more Diligence, Discretion, and Prudence into the

the Officers at large; and, by the silent Operation of such a System of Inspection, the happiest Effects would be the Rssult. *Rev. W. Russell.*

I cannot close this Paper without expressing my Persuasion that Mr. Crawford's Report will be found to be a most valuable and important Document. The minute and circumstantial Account which he gives of the American Penitentiaries does not exhibit those Establishments in a very favourable Light, but proves it to be an Abuse of Language to call them Penitentiaries.

Thus, while I have endeavoured to show in what respects it would be neither advisable nor practicable to adopt in our Institution the entire System in force in the Eastern Penitentiary, I have felt it my Duty to point out several valuable and judicious Suggestions of Mr. Crawford's, which might be applied, I think, with great Advantage to the General Penitentiary at Milbank.

WHITWORTH RUSSELL,
March 23, 1835. Chaplain to the General Penitentiary.

Have you any Suggestions to make to the Committee, by which you think the Laws now in force with respect to Prison Discipline might be improved?

There are several Suggestions I am anxious to offer to the Committee; but, as your Lordships have been pleased to receive the Observations I have just delivered in, perhaps you would permit that Paper to be before your Lordships before I am questioned upon that Subject. I beg to correct One or Two Answers that I gave before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1831. I have had Four Years additional Experience since that Time; I had been then only One Year Chaplain to the Penitentiary. By Question 309, in Page 26, I was asked, "What Punishments have you in the Penitentiary for the Transgression of Rules?" I answered, "Confinement either in a refractory or in a dark Cell, on a Bread and Water Diet; we use no corporeal Punishment. The Punishment I propose, and which is also used in the Penitentiary, is that the Length of the Imprisonment should depend upon the Conduct of the Prisoner. I think this is one of the best Modes of Punishment." It is with reference to that Opinion I wish to correct my Evidence. I consider now, that a much greater Evil is done by changing the Sentence in any way with reference to supposed good or bad Conduct than can be counterbalanced by any Good that may be gained in aid of Discipline. The shortening of Sentences upon supposed good Conduct interferes with the Principle, that Punishment, certain and defined, should follow Crime; it interferes with the Principle in this Way,—that a Man can by good Conduct in one Situation atone for bad Conduct in another; it opens a Door to all Kinds of Hypocrisy; it robs the Law of its just Demand, which requires a certain Satisfaction for the Crime committed; it induces those who are not yet convicted to trust either to their own good Conduct or the Intercession of Friends to obtain a Mitigation of their Sentence; for if there is a Possibility of a Sentence being changed in any way, they depend upon that Sentence being so changed as far as concerns their individual Case. I therefore consider that a much greater Evil is introduced into Prisons by permitting a Mitigation of Sentence, under any Circumstances, than can be counterbalanced by any Good which is expected to result from it.

Do you mean that you would under no Circumstances grant a Mitigation, or that you object to it altogether as a Condition?

I would on no account allow his Conduct in the Prison to obtain for the Prisoner better Treatment; I would make the Punishment, whatever it may be, certain, equal, and unremitted, and that, whatever good Conduct they may be induced to observe, should be for its own intrinsic Value, without any Reward or Inducement, as far as the Prison Regulations go.

It was heretofore the Practice, if they did behave well, that they should have that Favour shown them?

It is still the Practice, but I consider it to be a most mischievous one, that under any Circumstances a Prisoner should look for a Mitigation of Sentence for supposed good Conduct. Whilst under his Sentence, if he chooses to conduct himself well, he will be more happy and comfortable by doing so; but good Conduct under Punishment cannot at all atone for the Crimes which he has committed, and for which he is paying a Penalty to the Laws of his Country; he is not under a State of Probation, but of Punishment. The Prisoner also is

Rev. W. Russell.

sadly tempted to be a Hypocrite; as far as he is concerned himself it is a Boon to have this Temptation withdrawn, if he is to become really a reformed Character; and, as far as the Public at large are concerned, it is also of great Importance that the Sentence should be unmitigated, for the bad are always balancing the Pleasures and the Profits of Crime against the Possibilities of Punishment, and this is a great additional Chance, that the Interest of Friends or their own good Conduct may obtain for them a Mitigation of their Sentence, even if it be inflicted. It has also a very injurious Effect upon the Officers who are in charge of the Prisoners. When a Prisoner nearly arrives at the Time when he would be recommended to Pardon for his supposed good Conduct, if he commits an Offence against the Prison Regulations, and is reported for that Offence, you have not only to inflict the Prison Punishment, but also to deprive him of his Pardon; and the superior Officers are sadly tempted to pass over in such a Case that which they would not in the Case of a younger Prisoner, and thereby a Feeling is introduced that all are not treated with equal Justice, and it has more than once fallen to my Lot to have it charged upon myself, that in this Way I have been guilty of Partiality. The inferior Officer in immediate Charge of the Prisoner has the Liberty of the Prisoner, as a Sort of Patronage, in his own Hands, and by either reporting or withholding the Report he gives or withholds Liberty. I beg to submit, very humbly and very respectfully to the Committee, this Consideration, that the diminishing the Sentence for supposed good Conduct is injurious, as affects the Prisoner, as affects the Public, and as affects the Officers who have the Government of the Prison; it is unsound in Principle, and it is injurious in Practice; and as the Answer I have read, and others in my former Evidence, have so decidedly suggested the Mitigation of Sentence, I have been very anxious to correct that Opinion, which Four Years further Experience has shown me to be very unsound.

You of course then object in toto to the System of choosing Monitors from amongst the Prisoners?

I do; I object to giving any Prisoner any additional Comfort or any additional Reward. I object to the System of Rewards altogether. I object to any thing which will make a Prisoner forget he is a Prisoner, and that every thing he has belongs to his Country, and may be disposed of in whatever Way his Country thinks fit.

Do not you think it would rather diminish your Power of enforcing Silence if you did not appoint Monitors for that Purpose?

I so distrust the Prisoners that I think I never could be brought to believe that they would really assist us in enforcing Silence.

If you could be persuaded that the System of Monitors aided the enforcing of Silence, should you consider that the Object attained by enforcing Silence was sufficiently great to counterbalance the Objections you have urged on the other Grounds to the Appointment of Prisoners of good Conduct to such Offices?

I really think not; so many Evils arising from it suggest themselves to my Mind. A Feeling of Injustice among the whole Body of Prisoners is one of those Evils. The Monitor is appointed for supposed good Conduct; but what Opportunity have the Officers of really ascertaining the good Conduct of a Prisoner? Generally speaking, the cleverest Man is selected; and it is rewarding his Talent, and not his good Conduct. Generally speaking, it will be found, on Inquiry, that those who have known most of the Prisons, and have been by their Crimes the most frequently there, are the best conducted there; they have learnt how they can secure the Approbation and the Countenance of their Superiors; they become the most submissive; and, in general, it is found that the old Prisoners are those who get into those Situations. By old Prisoners, I mean those who have been most frequently in the Prison. The Men who consider themselves as having equal Claims are passed over; and the Prisoners consider themselves more the Objects of the Caprice of Governors and Officers, rather than as under the equal and certain Operation of the Laws of their Country.

Is there any other Correction you wish to make of your former Evidence?

I only wish to correct those Answers which refer to diminishing or lengthening of the Sentences on account of good or bad Conduct. Almost all the Prisoners

53

Rev. W. Russell.

Prisoners in the Penitentiary obtain their Pardon at the shortest Time at which they can be recommended for supposed good Conduct; the most sanguine Person cannot suppose that all deserved it, therefore it must be through the Operation of some unsound Principle in the Regulations that this Result is arrived at. I hold in my Hand a Table of the Prisoners, a Part of our Prison Register, from No. 651 to No. 1,090. The Table shows the Number of their Reports, the Situations of Trust they have filled in the Prison, the Length of Imprisonment to which they were originally sentenced, and the Time at which they obtained their Liberty, and it will be found that they almost all obtained their Liberty at the shortest possible Time at which they could be recommended. A Prisoner who is sentenced to Seven Years Transportation, by the Regulations of the Penitentiary, is allowed to be recommended to Pardon at the End of Three Years; a Prisoner who is sentenced to Fourteen Years Transportation is allowed to be recommended, supposing his Conduct to be good, at Three Years and a Half; and a Prisoner who is sentenced for Life is allowed to be recommended after Four Years. From the Table I have made out it will be observed that nearly all those sentenced for Seven Years are recommended after Three Years Confinement in the Penitentiary, that nearly all those who have been sentenced to Fourteen Years are recommended after Three Years and Six Months, and those sentenced for Life are recommended at the End of Four Years. With the Permission of the Committee, I would put in that Document.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

General Penitentiary, 28th February 1835.

The Register of Prisoners Names in the General Penitentiary, with the Number of their Reports, Appointment to Situations, and Term of Imprisonment, &c. &c.

(From Register Numbers, 651 to 1,090.)

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
651	Richard Timmings	-	-	Wardsman C. 2.	3 6	7 Years.
652	Benjamin Venables	-	-	Wardsman C. 1.	3 6	7 —
653	Thomas Bolton	-	-	-	1 2 (Died)	7 —
654	Thomas Startin	13	6	Kitchen Pentn 6. / Wardsman D. 6.	4 1	7 —
655	James Hemmings	-	-	Instructor E. 2.	3 7	7 —
656	James Lamb	-	-	-	2 6 (Med. Grounds)	14 —
657	William Cranfield	28	19	-	Full Time	7 —
658	Thomas Herman	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pn 5.	3 7	7 —
659	Joseph Herman	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pn 6.	3 7	7 —
660	John Sharpin	1	-	Wardsman C. 5.	3 7	14 —
661	John C. Browning	3	1	Wardsman D. 1.	3 6	7 —
662	John Buckley	-	-	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 6	7 —
663	Hugh M'Cann	1	-	Wardsman A. 6. / Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 8	7 —
664	William Edwards	1	-	Wardsman E. 6.	3 6	7 —
665	John Lea	7	2	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 9	7 —
666	William Jones	1	-	Infy Wardsman Pn 5.	3 6	7 —
667	William Burt	1	-	Wardsman E. 1.	3 9	7 —
668	John Griffiths	2	2	Wardsman C. 1.	3 7	7 —
669	James Hague	7	5	Instructor D. 1. / Kitchen Pentn 1.	4 0	7 —
670	Samuel Braddock	3	2	Instructor Pentn 2.	3 6	7 —
671	James Trainer	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pentn 1. / Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 6	7 —
672	Joseph Turner	-	-	Tower Wardsman, Pn 2.	3 6	7 —
673	William Harrison	-	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3 6	7 —
674	John Pearson	14	10	-	3 11 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
675	John Campbell	-	-	-	1 11 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
676	James Hollins	1	-	Bakehouse	3 6	7 —
677	Joseph Kightley	-	-	Wardsman A. 1. / Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
678	Alexander O'Cormack	1	1	Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
679	James Judson	-	-	Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
680	Charles Williams	-	-	-	1 11 (Died)	Life.
681	James Kimber	2	2	Infy Wardsman Pn 2.	3 11	14 Years.

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.		Sentence.
					Yrs.	Mths.	
682	Thomas Castle	-	-	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	10	Life.
683	George Hayward	1	1	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	10	14 Years.
684	Martin Dooley	-	-	Instructor E. 1.	3	6	7 —
685	John Parnacott	18	14	Wardsman E. 5. Instructor D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 1.	Full Time		7 —
686	Stephen Hillier	2	2	Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	6	7 —
687	Edward Ward	-	-	Wardsman C. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	10	14 —
688	James Williams	1	1	Instructor D. 2. Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	6	7 —
689	George Jones	-	-	Wardsman C. 6. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	10	Life.
690	William Morgan	7	3	Wardsman E. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	11	Life.
691	John Edmonds	1	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 5.	3	6	7 Years.
692	George Grant	1	1	-	2	9	Life. (Removed to the the Hulks for his Health.)
693	John Green	-	-	Wardsman A. 2. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	10	14Years.
694	Thomas Simmonds	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pent. 5. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	10	Life.
695	Slatter Sturch	2	1	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	6	7 Years.
696	John Peberdy	1	-	-	1	9	(Med. Grounds) Life.
667	Henry North	-	-	Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	10	Life.
698	Charles Evans	2	2	Wardsman B. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	6	7 Years.
699	Joseph Lathwood	-	-	Wardsman D. 1.	3	6	7 —
700	William Booth	-	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3	6	7 —
701	John Jones	-	-	-	2	3	(Med. Grounds) 7 —
702	Peter Boardman	2	1	Instructor A. 1. Do. D. 1. Wardsman B. 1. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	6	7 —
703	Samuel Machin	4	2	Wardsman A. 5.	3	7	7 —
704	Samuel Burton	3	1	Wardsman C. 5. Kitchen Pentn 6	3	10	14 —
705	Charles Day	-	-	Wardsman A. 5. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	6	7 —
706	Joseph Oldfield	-	-	Shoemaker's Shop	3	6	7 —
707	Henry Savage	2	-	Tower Wardsman Pent. 5.	3	6	7 —
708	John Dingle	1	-	Wardsman E. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	10	14 —
709	John J. Holmes	3	1	-	3	6	(Med. Grounds) 14 —
710	Timothy Davis	1	-	Wardsman C. 1. Do. B. 1.	3	6	7 —
711	James Williams	5	2	Instructor E. 1. Instructor Pent. 1.	3	6	7 —
712	James Smith	7	4	Kitchen Pentn 6.	4	0	7 —
713	John King	4	4	Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3	8	7 —
714	James Barker	4	3	Instructor E. 1. Wardsman E. 1.	3	8	7 —
715	Charles Just	19	12	-	3	9	(Med. Grounds) 7 —
716	Charles Mathews	11	8	Instructor E. 1. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	10	7 —
717	James Harris	13	7	Instructor D. 5. Wardsman C. 5.	4	3	7 —
718	Robert English	1	-	Wardsman A. 2. Tower Do. Pent. 2.	3	6	7 —
719	Samuel Jones	9	3	Wardsman A. 6. Cutting Cell A. 6. Instructor A. 6.	3	8	7 —
720	Edward Edmonds	-	-	Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	6	7 —
721	Thomas Gapp	12	5	Wardsman D. 2	3	9	(Med. Grounds) 7 —
722	Robert Taylor	13	5	-	3	8	7 —
723	John Davis	7	2	Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	10	7 —
724	James Harding	-	-	Wardsman C. 5.	3	6	7 —
725	John Tustin	-	-	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman D. 5.	3	6	7 —
726	William Martin	3	1	Instructor D. 5. Wardsman E. 5.	3	6	7 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
727	Bristow Roberts	-	-	-	0 11 (Med. Grounds)	Three of 7 Years each.
728	William Heath	9	6	Instructor A. 2.	3 9 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
729	George Walker	-	-	-	2 9 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
730	James Thompson	-	-	-	2 11 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
731	James Hill	-	-	Instructor D. 6. Wardsman E. 1.	3 6	7 —
732	Thomas Horton	1	-	Kitchen Pentn 6. Wardsman E. 6.	3 6	7 —
733	Thomas Jones	-	-	Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
734	John Clarke	-	-	Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
735	William Clarke	2	2	Wardsman A. 6.	3 6	7 —
736	George Smith	6	4	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 10	7 —
737	James Squires	-	-	Wardsman A. 5.	3 6	7 —
738	William Mathews	2	1	-	3 6	7 —
739	Ralph Gray	19	16	-	2 4 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
740	Alexander Harrold	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pn. 6.	3 6	7 —
741	Alexander Garrow	-	-	Shoemaker's Shop	3 6	7 —
742	Thomas Hall	1	1	-	3 0 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
743	Robert Beech	-	-	Wardsman B. 2.	3 3	7 —
744	Gilbert Taylor	2	-	Instructor A. 6. Wardsman D. 6.	3 6	7 —
745	Jacob Davison	-	-	Kitchen Pentn 6. Infy Wardsman Pn 5.	3 6	7 —
746	John Bryan	2	-	Wardsman B. 6.	3 6	7 —
747	William Price	5	4	-	3 3 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
748	Thomas Belnap	-	-	Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
749	William Bracken	1	1	Inspector A. 6.	3 6	7 —
750	George Curtis	-	-	Instructor C. 5. Tower Wardsman Pn 5.	3 6	7 —
751	Joseph Mills	-	-	-	2 3 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
752	James Bell	-	-	Wardsman B. 6. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 6	7 —
753	Joseph Gledhill	-	-	Instructor E. 2. Wardsman B. 2. Do. E. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	7 —
754	Robert Wroe	2	1	Instructor E. 2.	3 6	7 —
755	Robert Thomson	1	1	-	2 7 (Convicted again for a Robbery in the Penitentiary, and transported for Life.)	14 —
756	John Smith	5	4	Instructor C. 6.	3 6	7 —
757	William Wakefield	2	1	Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 6	7 —
758	James Braddick	-	-	Bakehouse	3 6	7 —
759	Andrew Siddell	1	-	Kitchen Pent. 6. Infy Wardsman Pn 1.	3 6 (Med. Grounds)	14 —
760	Horace Dixon	-	-	Wardsman E. 5. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 5	7 —
761	Robert Catton	-	-	Wardsman D. 5. Do. A. 5.	3 5	7 —
762	Charles Ridout	1	-	-	1 1 (Died)	7 —
763	Robert Ridout	10	9	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 5	7 —
764	John Jones	-	-	-	3 3	7 —
765	John Heyes	2	-	-	4 2	7 —
766	James Stones	2	2	-	3 0	7 —
767	John Purcell	-	-	Wardsman A. 6. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 4	7 —
768	Giles Hilton	1	1	Wardsman C. 1.	3 4	7 —
769	Charles Jones	-	-	-	2 0 (Obtained Pardon through private Interest.)	7 —
770	Charles Cannon	5	4	Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 6	7 —
771	John Phelp	-	-	-	1 5 (Obtained Pardon through private Interest.)	7 —
772	George Theobald	1	-	Wardsman E. 6.	3 2	7 —

Note.—The shortest Time at which Prisoners were recommended to Pardon for supposed good Conduct was Three Years and Six Months, but in consequence of certain new Regulations adopted about this Time the Period was reduced to Three Years.

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.		Sentence.
					Yrs.	Mths.	
773	William Allen	12	8	Instructor C. 1. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	10	7 Years.
774	William Hughes	9	6	Kitchen Pent. 6. Wardsman C. 6.	3	9	7 —
775	Joseph Browning	-	-	Wardsman B. 1. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	1	7 —
776	Thomas Norton	17	11	Infy Wardsman Pn 6.	3	6	7 —
777	William Wood	-	-	-	0	1	7 — (Removed to the Hulks for his Health.)
778	William Mills	-	-	Wardsman B. 1.	3	1	7 —
779	William Sibbeck	1	1	Instructor C. 6. Wardsman C. 6.	3	2	7 —
780	John Holmes	-	-	Instructor D. 1. Do. B. 1. Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3	1	7 —
781	Thomas Clarkson	-	-	Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	1	7 —
782	Wilson Lowes	2	1	-	3	1	7 — (Died)
783	William Siddall	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pn 6.	3	1	14 —
784	John Walton	3	2	Infy Wardsman Pn 5.	3	3	7 —
785	John Jacobs	-	-	Wardsman C. 5.	3	0	7 —
786	John Sutcliffe	2	2	Wardsman D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	2	7 —
787	William Ashworth	2	1	Tower Wardsman Pn 5. Instructor C. 5. Wardsman C. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	2	7 —
788	John Lowe	-	-	Instructor C. 2. Wardsman B. 2.	3	0	7 —
789	John Davies	-	-	Wardsman A. 2.	3	0	7 —
790	Thomas Greenwood	-	-	Wardsman E. 2.	3	0	7 —
791	James H. Bate	2	1	Wardsman D. 6.	3	1	7 —
792	Robert Hully	-	-	Infy Wardsman Pn 1.	3	0	7 —
793	James Nutton	1	1	Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pentn. 1.	3	1	7 —
794	John Cobus	-	-	Wardsman E. 5.	3	0	7 —
795	George Biles	2	-	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman A. 5.	3	0	7 —
796	John Glover	4	3	Kitchen, Pent. 6. Wardsman C. 5.	3	1	7 —
797	John Dore	2	2	Instructor D. 5. Wardsman A. 5.	3	2	7 —
798	George Beacroft	1	-	Infy Wardsman Pn 1.	3	0	7 —
799	Joshua Longworth	9	5	Wardsman E. 5. Do. C. 5. Kitchen Pentn 6.	4	1	7 —
800	William N. M'Gill	1	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 5.	3	6	14 —
801	James Barclay	1	1	Wardsman C. 5.	3	0	7 —
802	James Douley	2	-	Wardsman A. 2.	3	0	7 —
803	John Wood	-	-	Wardsman A. 6.	3	0	7 —
804	John Wilson	6	4	Wardsman D. 6.	3	2	7 —
805	Charles Roberts	5	3	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	0	7 —
806	John Nolan	2	1	Wardsman E. 6.	3	0	7 —
807	James Morris	5	3	-	2	3	7 — (Died)
808	Henry W. Thomas	-	-	Instructor A. 6. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	0	7 —
809	Thomas Webby	3	2	Wardsman C. 6. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	0	7 —
810	Edward Beverley	-	-	Cutting Cell A. 6. Wardsman A. 6.	3	0	7 —
811	Richard Abbott	2	-	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	0	7 —
812	William Davenport	1	1	Tower Wardsman, Pn 2. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	0	7 —
813	Thomas Eckersall	1	1	Instructor E. 2. Wardsman 2. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	0	7 —
814	William Shaw	1	-	Wardsman D. 5.	3	0	7 —
815	John Hill	1	-	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman E. 5.	3	0	7 —
816	Edward Brown	3	1	-	3	0	7 —
817	Joseph Fishbourn	-	-	Instructor, D. 1. Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	2	10	7 — (Med. Grounds)

57

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
818	Thomas Maskell	2	2	Instructor E. 2. Wardsman C. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 2	7 Years
819	George Larkin	-	-	Instructor D. 1. Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
820	Henry Turner	2	1	-	2 8 (Died)	7 —
821	John Hair	4	3	Instructor D. 5. Wardsman A. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
822	Thomas Taylor	1	-	Bakehouse	3 0	7 —
823	William Dollan	-	-	Wardsman C. 5. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6.	3 0	7 —
824	George Anderson	2	2	-	1 2 (Removed to the Hulk, incorrigible.)	7 —
825	William Kirk	-	-	-	0 3 (Died)	7 —
826	John Rickman	-	-	-	3 0	7 —
827	Thomas Edmonds	-	-	Instructor B. 6. Wardsman D. 6.	3 0	7 —
828	George Odell	1	-	Instructor D. 5. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6. Instructor E. 5.	3 0	7 —
829	Alfred Beasley	-	-	Instructor C. 6. Wardsman C. 6. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6.	3 0	7 –
830	Robert Oxford	2	-	Instructor C. 6. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6. Wardsman E. 6.	3 0	7 —
831	Robert Waspe	-	-	Kitchen Pentⁿ 6. Infʸ Wardsman Pent. 6.	2 11	7 —
832	John Julian	-	-	Instructor E. 2. Infʸ Wardsman Pent. 2.	2 11	7 —
833	Joseph Spencer	5	2	-	3 11 (In the Lunatic Asylum nearly Two Years.)	7 —
834	Edward Bestwick	1	1	Kitchen Pentⁿ 6.	3 0	7 —
835	Richard W. Hunt	1	1	-	1 11 (Med. Grounds)	14 —
836	Richard Nelson	2	1	Wardsman C. 6. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6. Wardsman E. 6.	3 6	14 —
837	Thomas Perrins	3	3	Instructor E. 1. Wardsman A. 1. Tower ditto Pentⁿ 1. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6.	3 0	7 —
838	John Lee	1	1	-	2 4 (Died)	7 —
839	William Davis	-	-	Wardsman C. 1.	2 4 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
840	Joseph Hall	-	-	Instructor E. 2. Infʸ Wardsman Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
841	William White	1	-	Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
842	Joseph Rudge	-	-	Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
843	Richard White	1	-	-	2 3 (Died)	7 —
844	John Whitton	3	2	-	1 11 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
845	Thomas Deacon	8	3	-	2 4 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
846	John W. Hussey	-	-	Wardsman D. 5.	3 0	7 —
847	William Shurmer	7	4	-	2 0 (Removed to the Hulks for his Health.)	7 —
848	Thomas Burgess	-	-	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman E. 5. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1. Wardsman A. 5.	3 0	7 —
849	William Cruper	-	-	-	1 10 (Died)	7 —
850	John Jones	-	-	Inspector C. 5. Instructor E. 5. Wardsman A. 5. Infʸ ditto Pent. 5.	4 0	Life.
851	Frederick Moult	1	-	Kitchen Pentⁿ 1. Infʸ Wardsman Pⁿ 2.	3 6	14 Years.
852	Alexander Hogg	-	-	-	1 9 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
853	David Stewart	-	-	Wardsman C. 5.	2 11	7 —
854	Robert Russell	-	-	Kitchen Pentⁿ 6. Infʸ Wardsman Pⁿ 6.	2 10 (Med. Grounds)	7 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary. Yrs.	Mths.	Sentence.
855	Martin Bergin				0	4	7 Years.
856	Robert Hughes			Wardsman A. 6. Kitchen Pent^{n} 6.	3	0	7 —
857	Thomas Stewart			Wardsman E. 6. Kitchen Pent^{n} 6.	3	0	7 —
858	David Watson			Instructor E. 5. Wardsman E. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	0	7 —
859	William Nicol			Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	0	7 —
860	William Houston	4	3	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	1	7 —
861	James Melton	1		Instructor C. 5. Wardsman C. 5. Inf^{y} ditto Pent. 6.	3	0	7 —
862	John Woods			Instructor D. 5. Tower Wardsman P^{n} 5.	3	6	14 —
863	Richard Measor	2	1	Instructor D. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6. Wardsman D. 6.	3	6	14 —
864	James Seddon			Wardsman C. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	0	7 —
865	William Bosworth	1		Instructor D. 5. Wardsman E. 5. Kitchen Pent^{n} 6.	3	0	7 —
866	Henry Whitfield				1	5 (Died)	7 —
867	John Sutton	1	1	Instructor D. 1. Tower Wardsman P^{n} 1. Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	0	7 —
868	Robert Gill				0	6 (Died)	7 —
869	John Hindley			Wardsman C. 1. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1.	3	0	7 —
870	Thomas Lewis			Instructor A. 5. Wardsman A. 5.	3	0	7 —
871	Manis^{r} Worts			Tower Wardsman P^{n} 6. Inf^{y} ditto Pent. 6.	2	6 (Obtained Pardon through private Interest.)	14 —
872	Thomas Sheldrick				1	11 (Died)	7 —
873	John Kimpton	1		Tower Wardsman P^{n} 2. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1.	3	0	7 —
874	William Hadland				1	11 (Died)	7 —
875	Henry Archer			Bakehouse Instructor D. 1. Tower Wardsman P^{n} 1. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1.	3	6	14 —
876	Ezekiel Bentick				1	0 (Died)	7 —
877	Charles Shelley			Instructor C. 6. Wardsman D. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6.	2	11	7 —
878	Charles Cooper	2	1		2	0 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
879	Jonathan Wroe	1		Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1. Wardsman A. 1. Instructor D. 1.	3	0	7 —
880	Robert Nicholson			Wardsman E. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	0	7 —
881	Henry Dunbobbin			Inf^{y} Wardsman P^{n} 5.	2	5 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
882	Patrick Hughes	1			2	7 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
883	Thomas Adams	1	1	Wardsman A. 6. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1. Ditto ditto Kitchen Pent^{n} 6.	3	0	7 —
884	John Scott	1		Instructor E. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6. Ditto ditto	3	0	7 —
885	Edward Barrett	1		Wardsman E. 5. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1.	3	0	7 —
886	John Caldwell			Wardsman A. 1. Kitchen Pent^{n} 1.	3	0	7 —
887	John Smith			Instructor A. 1. Inspector C. 1. Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent^{n} 6. Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	6	14 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
888	Robert Farish			Wardsman E. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman E. 2.	3 0	7 Years.
889	John Mackay			Wardsman C. 1. Tower ditto Pent. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	14 —
890	Charles Gilston			Instructor E. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Tower ditto Pent. 1. Wardsman A. 1. Ditto D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	14 —
891	Andrew M'Guigan	1		Wardsman E. 1. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
892	James Johnston	1		Wardsman A. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6.	3 6	14 —
893	James Howie	2	1	Shoemaker's Shop	2 3 (Med. Grounds)	14 —
894	James Peattie	1		Wardsman C. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
895	William Morton			Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 6	14 —
896	Robert Baird			Instructor E. 2. Wardsman E. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
897	Anthony Docharty	3	1	Infy Wardsman Pⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
898	Thomas Bolster	15	10	- - -	4 3 (Not discharged)	7 —
899	Thomas Evans			Instructor A. 1. Ditto E. 1. Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
900	Thomas Gowling			Instructor D. 1. Wardsman A. 1. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 6	14 —
901	John Fearne			Instructor C. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
902	Thomas Weston	1		Bakehouse	3 0	7 —
903	John Hobson	1		Wardsman E. 1. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
904	Samuel Farquharson	3	1	Wardsman B. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
905	William Jones	2	1	Wardsman B. 2. Ditto A. 2. Kitchen Pentⁿ 6.	3 0	7 —
906	John Joyce	2	1	Instructor D. 1. Wardsman A. 1. Ditto B. 1.	3 0	7 —
907	Abraham Bradbury			Instructor E. 1. Tower Wardsman Pⁿ 1.	3 0	7 —
908	Thomas Birchall			Instructor D. 2. Wardsman A. 2.	3 0	7 —
909	Charles Gurr	3	1	Inspector C. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 6	14 —
910	David Cooper			Instructor A. 1. Ditto D. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Instructor B. 1. Wardsman B. 1.	3 0	7 —
911	John Richardson			Instructor B. 1. Inspector C. 1. Instructor B. 1. Wardsman A. 1. Infy ditto Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
912	Henry Crook			Instructor C. 2. Wardsman C. 2.	3 0	7 —
913	Abraham Tattersall			- - - -	2 3 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
914	Richard Johnson	5	2	Instructor C. 2. Ditto B. 2. Wardsman B. 2.	3 11	7 —
915	John Fisher	1		Tower Wardsman Pⁿ 2.	3 0	7 —
916	John Brooks	1		- - - -	3 0	7 —
917	Charles Carter			Bakehouse Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 6	14 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary. Yrs.	Mths.		Sentence.
918	Joseph Smith	1	-	Instructor D. 2. Ditto ditto Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1. Ditto Pent. 6.	3	6		14 Years.
919	Joseph Harris	-	-	Instructor E. 2. Wardsman E. 2. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	6		14 —
920	James Leare	1	-	Wardsman E. 5. Infy ditto Pent. 6.	3	0		7 —
921	James Scott	-	-	Wardsman C. 5.	3	0		7 —
922	John Fleming	1	1	Wardsman E. 5. Infy ditto Pent. 6.	3	1		7 —
923	Joseph Milarky	-	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 6.	3	0		7 —
924	Bartholomew Lindsey	17	10	-	4	0	(Not discharged)	7 —
925	George Hill	-	-	Wardsman A. 6.	1	11	(Obtained Pardon through private Interest.)	7 —
926	William Lakeman	14	9	-	4	0	(Not discharged)	7 —
927	James Finch	-	-	-	1	5		7 —
928	Thomas Heath	1	-	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman D. 5.	3	0		7 —
929	Joseph Billings	-	-	Wardsman A. 5.	2	3	(Died.)	7 —
930	Edward Meads	-	-	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman A. 5.	3	0		7 —
931	John Wharton	-	-	Wardsman E. 5.	3	0		7 —
932	James Smellie	-	-	-	1	4	(Died.)	7 —
933	William Hargrave	-	-	-	1	6	(Med. Grounds)	14 —
934	John Hoyles	-	-	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	0		7 —
935	John Parkinson	-	-	-	0	2	(Committed Suicide.)	7 —
936	Samuel James	-	-	Wardsman E. 5.	3	0		7 —
937	Francis Jones	3	2	-	3	4		7 —
938	Thomas Cole	-	-	Wardsman C. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	0		7 —
939	Nicholas Thos. Harris	2	1	-	3	0		7 —
940	Edward J. Stone	6	3	-	3	0		7 —
941	James Woolley	-	-	Wardsman E. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3	0		7 —
942	William Bennett	-	-	Cutting Cell A. 6. Wardsman A. 6.	3	0		7 —
943	Robert Edwards	-	-	Wardsman C. 6.	3	0		7 —
944	John Hudson	-	-	Wardsman E. 6.	3	0		7 —
945	James Slaughter	1	-	Instructor D. 6. Wardsman D. 6. Infy ditto, Pent. 6.	3	6		14 —
946	William Payne	-	-	-	1	3	(Med. Grounds)	7 —
947	William Pym	-	-	Instructor A. 2. Inspector A. 2. Wardsman A. 2.	3	0		7 —
948	John Cameron	1	-	Instructor E. 2. Wardsman B. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3	8		14 —
949	Murdo M'Kay	-	-	-	0	10	(Died.)	14 —
950	Robert Duncan	-	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 6. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	0		7 —
951	Alexander Duncan	-	-	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3	0		7 —
952	William Christie	-	-	Instructor E. 1. Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3	0		7 —
953	John Roach	1	1	-	1	0	(Med. Grounds)	7 —
954	Robert Wilson	1	-	Instructor E. 1. Wardsman E. 1. Ditto A. 1. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3	1		7 —
955	John Hepwood	2	2	-	1	8	(Removed to the Hulk, incorrigible.)	7 —
956	George Day	1	1	Instructor D. 1. Do. and Inspector C. 1. Wardsman D. 1.	3	0		7 —
957	Job Preston	7	4	Instructor D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman A. 1.	3	8		7 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
958	Thomas Cooper			Instructor D. 2. Ditto C. 2. Wardsman F. 2.	3 0	7 Years.
959	Jonathan Watson, 1st.			Kitchen Pen^{t} 6. Tower Wardsman P^{n} 5.	3 6	14 —
960	James Lord	3	2	Instructor D. 1. Ditto B. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Ditto A. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman F. 1.	3 8	14 —
961	Edward Hardman	3	2	Instructor D. 5. Wardsman D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 8	14 —
962	Jonathan Watson			Wardsman C. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6. Wardsman C. 5.	3 6	14 —
963	Thomas Mintern			Cutting Cell A. 6. Tower Wardsman P^{n} 6. Kitchen Pent^{n} 6.	3 0	7 —
964	John Fisher			- - - -	1 10 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
965	John B. Gould	2	1	Instructor D. 5. Wardsman D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
966	William Strong	1		- - - -	2 0 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
967	William Bush	4	1	Instructor D. 6. before reported.	3 9 (Not discharged)	7 —
968	John Knight	1	1	- - - -	1 3 (Died)	7 —
969	Thomas House	1		Cutting Cell A. 6.	3 0	7 —
970	James Earle			Instructor A. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
971	William Trotman			Instructor D. 2. Infy Wardsman P^{n} 2.	2 10 (Died)	14 —
972	James Mackie	1	1	Instructor B. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
973	James Davidson			- - - -	1 11 (Died)	7 —
974	James Ledingham			Instructor E. 6. Wardsman D. 6.	3 0	7 —
975	James Dunbar			Instructor B. 1. Ditto and Inspector C. 1. Wardsman B. 1.	3 0	7 —
976	John Robertson			- - - -	2 9 (Med. Grounds)	14 —
977	Charles Turner	1		Wardsman A. 1. Infy Ditto Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
978	John Owen	2	1	Instructor D. 2. Cutting Cell A. 6. Bakehouse	3 3	7 —
979	James Cavanagh			- - - -	3 0	7 —
980	Andrew Lawrie			Wardsman D. 2.	3 0	7 —
981	Richard Cross			- - - -	1 11 (Med. Grounds)	Life.
982	Samuel Bohlen	2	1	Instructor E. 1. Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 8 (Not discharged)	Life.
983	William Moseley	1		- - - -	0 8 (Died)	7 Years.
984	John Collier			Instructor E. 2. Infy Wardsman P^{n} 2.	3 0	7 —
985	John Taylor	1		Wardsman E. 1.	3 0 (Obtained Pardon through private Interest.)	14 —
986	Joseph B. Bendle	8	6	- - - -	3 8 (Not discharged)	7 —
987	George Oliver	1		Bakehouse	3 0	7 —
988	Alexander Dewar			Instructor D. 2. Wardsman C. 2. Infy Ditto Pent. 2.	3 6	14 —
989	John Foulds			Tower Wardsman P^{n} 2.	3 0	7 —
990	David K. Balfour	1		Wardsman E. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
991	Dougal M'Phail	2		Instructor D. 2. Wardsman B. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman E. 1.	3 6	14 —
992	Joseph Bradshaw			Cutting Cell A. 6. Wardsman A. 6. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
993	Lewis Greenwood			Wardsman D. 2. Instructor E. 2. Wardsman C. 2.	3 0	7 Years.
994	John Williamson				1 6 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
995	Daniel Williamson			Instructor E. 2. Wardsman D. 2.	3 0	7 —
996	Henry George Moon	1	1	Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3 0	7 —
997	Joseph Rashbrook	1			3 0	7 —
998	Peter Clark	7	4		3 6 (Not discharged)	7 —
999	Duncan M'Caig	6	5		0 11 (Removed to the Hulk, incorrigible.)	14
1000	William Paul	1		Instructor A. 2. Wardsman A. 2.	3 0	7 —
1001	John Carter	1			1 7 (Removed to the Lunatic Asylum.)	14 —
1002	William Hutchon				1 1 (Obtained Pardon through private Interest.)	7 —
1003	William Preston	2		Wardsman C. 6. Infy Ditto Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
1004	Thomas Knight	1			1 5 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
1005	Samuel M. Knight			Wardsman C. 1.	3 0	7 —
1006	William Hunt	8	3	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 3	7 —
1007	James M'Garry	10	6		3 5 (Not discharged)	7 —
1008	George Graham	32	23		3 2 (Removed to the Hulk, incorrigible.)	14 —
1009	William Brett			Instructor C. 6. Tower Wardsman Pn 6.	2 7	Life.
1010	James Coles	1		Instructor C. 5. Wardsman A. 5. Tower Ditto Pent. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6. Wardsman C. 5.	3 4 (Not discharged)	Life.
1011	John C. F. Hunter	5	2		1 10 (Med. Grounds)	7 Years.
1012	John Arne			Instructor A. 5. Wardsman E. 5.	3 0	7 —
1013	William Nanfan	2		Wardsman A. 5. Infy Ditto Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
1014	William Boor	8	2	Inspector A. 2. Instructor D. 2. Wardsman D. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0 (Removed to the Hulk, incorrigible.)	14 —
1015	Samuel Hall			Instructor E. 5. Ditto and Inspector C. 5. Wardsman C. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
1016	Benjamin Wardle	1		Instructor A. 5. Infy Wardsman Pn 5.	2 7 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
1017	James Winsor	1		Wardsman D. 5.	3 0	7 —
1018	Matthew C. Small	1			3 0	7 —
1019	Robers Harris	3	2	Wardsman F. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
1020	James Mickle				1 0 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
1021	John Nicholson	2	1		3 3 (Not discharged)	14 —
1022	Peter Ross				1 7 (Med. Grounds)	14 —
1023	Duncan M'Farlan			Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
1024	John M'Minnies			Wardsman D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
1025	Edward Boyle	7	3		3 3 (Not discharged)	14 —
1026	William Longshaw	2	2	Instructor A. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman D. 1.	3 0	7 —
1027	Richard Smith	5	3		3 3	7 —
1028	Ezekiel Brennan	3	1		3 0	7 —
1029	James Whittaker				0 5 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
1030	William Thompson	1		Wardsman B. 2.	3 0	7 —
1031	William Hills	1	1	Wardsman D. 5.	3 0	7 —
1032	Edward Beard	1	1	Instructor E. 5. Wardsman A. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
1033	James Leather	43	22		3 3 (Med. Grounds)	7 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
1034	Thomas Pickles	1	1	Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 2	7Years.
1035	Richard Frewell	5	1	Instructor A. 2.	3 3	7 —
1036	Thomas Larkin	2	- -	Wardsman E. 2.	3 0	7 —
1037	Arthur Smith	2	- -	Wardsman A. 5.	3 0	7 —
1038	William Olive	5	2	Wardsman E. 6.	3 3 (Not discharged)	7 —
1039	Henry Dixon	11	4	- - - -	3 3 (Not discharged)	Life.
1040	Alexander Campbell	- -	- -	Wardsman D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7Years.
1041	Alexander Vicary	1	- -	Instructor A. 5.	3 0	7 —
1042	John Webb	4	1	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 1	7 —
1043	Thomas Howard	- -	- -	Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
1044	James Molyneux	- -	- -	- - - -	0 1 (Died)	7 —
1045	Robert Williams	- -	- -	Instructor D. 6. Wardsman E. 6.	3 0	7 —
1046	George Bradley	- -	- -	Instructor E. 6. Wardsman A. 6.	3 0	7 —
1047	John Wheeler	- -	- -	Instructor E. 5. Ditto and Inspector C. 5.	3 0	7 —
1048	Henry Davis	9	3	- - - -	3 3 (Not discharged)	7 —
1049	William Barnes	2	2	- - - -	3 0	7 —
1050	Thomas Vickers	- -	- -	- - - -	0 8 (Died)	7 —
1051	Thomas Phethean	- -	- -	Tower Wardsman Pn 6.	3 0	7 —
1052	James Turner	- -	- -	- - - -	0 8 (Died)	7 —
1053	Richard Waite	- -	- -	Bakehouse	3 0	7 —
1054	Thomas Mather	1	- -	Bakehouse	3 0	7 —
1055	William Andrews	1	- -	Instructor D. 5. Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0	7 —
1056	Joseph Dench	1	- -	Wardsman C. 2. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 2 (Not discharged)	14 —
1057	Thomas Davis	1	- -	Instructor E. 1. Wardsman F. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 1 (Not discharged)	Life.
1058	George M'Lochlin	2	1	Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman C. 1.	3 1 (Not discharged)	Life.
1059	Francis Conway	- -	- -	Wardsman B. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7Years.
1060	Edward State	- -	- -	Wardsman A. 2. Kitchen Pentn 3.	3 1 (Not discharged)	14 —
1061	John Woodward	2	1	Instructor C. 6. Kitchen Pentn 6.	3 0	7 —
1062	James Symonds	3	2	- - - -	3 1	7 —
1063	Charles Clarke	7	3	- - - -	3 1 (Not discharged)	7 —
1064	William Blayney	- -	- -	- - - -	1 5 (Med. Grounds)	7 —
1065	Edward Parry	1	- -	Instructor D. 1. Wardsman D. 1.	3 0	7 —
1066	John Little	1	1	Instructor D. 1. Wardsman E. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
1067	Richard Bishop	1	- -	Wardsman D. 1. Kitchen Pent. 1. Wardsman A. 1.	3 0	7 —
1068	Edward Blythe	- -	- -	Bakehouse	1 2 (ObtainedPardon through private Interest.)	7 —
1069	Richard Dovell	- -	- -	- - - -	0 7 (ObtainedPardon through private Interest.)	7 —
1070	Arthur Fish	- -	- -	Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 0	7 —
1071	William Frost	- -	- -	Instructor D. 2. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 0	7 —
1072	John Butcher	- -	- -	Instructor A. 2. Tower Wardsman Pn 2.	3 0	7 —
1073	William Bannon	1	- -	Wardsman D. 2.	3 0	7 —
1074	Richard Naylor	- -	- -	Instructor A. 1. Wardsman C. 1. Kitchen Pentn 1.	3 0	7 —
1075	Thomas Kinsey	- -	- -	- - - -	1 7 (Removed to the Hulk for his Health.)	7 —
1076	Thomas Birchall	- -	- -	Instructor A. 2.	3 0	7 —
1077	George Bullock	- -	- -	Wardsman F. 2.	3 0	7 —
1078	Thomas Edwards	- -	- -	Instructor C. 2. Wardsman C. 2.	3 0	7 —
1079	James Randall	- -	- -	- - - -	3 0	7 —
1080	John Holloway	1	- -	- - - -	3 0 (Not discharged)	14 —

Register Nos.	Names.	Number of Reports.	Times punished.	To what Situations appointed.	Length of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.	Sentence.
					Yrs. Mths.	
1081	Thomas Edmondson	-	-	-	1 5 (Med. Grounds)	7 Years.
1082	David Cusine	-	-	-	0 2 (Died)	7 —
1083	Andrew Campbell	2	2	Instructor B. 1. / Wardsman E. 1.	3 0 (Not discharged)	14 —
1084	Samuel Thoburn	6	4	-	3 0 (Not discharged)	7 —
1085	James Hardee	1	-	Kitchen Pent. 1. / Wardsman B. 1.	3 0	7 —
1086	Charles Freebairne	-	-	Instructor E. 1. / Wardsman F. 1.	3 0	7 —
1087	George Sewell	-	-	-	0 6 (Died)	7 —
1088	Edward Gregson	-	-	Kitchen Pent. 6. / Ditto Pent. 1.	3 0	7 —
1089	Richard Baxendale	-	-	Tower Wardsman Pn 1.	3 0	7 —
1090	Richard Waterhouse	1	-	Inspector A. 6. / Wardsman D. 6. / Kitchen Pent. 6.	3 0 (Not discharged)	14 —

Rev. W. Russell.

Is it not very natural that those who have the Government of a Prison should wish as far as they can, consistently with good Faith, to represent that they manage that Prison well?

I wish to show that the Effect of the Regulation is to produce Duplicity in the Prisoners, and other Evils in the System, and not to impugn the Management. The most sanguine Person cannot suppose that they are all equally reformed. There are certain Regulations laid down for the Government of the Prison, and if the Prisoner observes those Regulations he must obtain that which is promised him. If there is an Absence of Reports, if there appears nothing against him, he must be recommended to Pardon, while he may in reality be the worst possible Character; he may have restrained himself solely with a view to obtaining his Liberty, and he may be as bad or worse as when he entered the Prison; but, having observed the Prison Regulations, he is recommended at the shortest possible Time. I submit that the System must be unsound in Principle if the whole nearly obtain their Liberty at the shortest possible Time. It is not that, according to the Practice, any thing is incorrect on the Part of those who regulate the Institution, but that the Principle is unsound; and I endeavour to prove that it is so by showing that nearly all obtain their Pardon at the shortest Time, whereas all cannot possibly equally deserve it.

Are any Prisoners who are sent to the Penitentiary afterwards transported?

The Sentences of Transportation are commuted to Terms of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

Are any of the Persons sent to the Penitentiary afterwards transported?

There is now a Power, by a recent Act of Parliament, of sending Persons for a Period of Confinement in the Penitentiary, to be followed by Transportation; but that will be without any Reference to their Conduct; when the Time comes for their Transportation they will be sent out of the Country; but this is a new Power, under a new Act altogether. The Act which regulated the Institution commuted the Sentence of Transportation to Periods of Imprisonment in the Penitentiary; and if, before One Half of that commuted Sentence is expired, a Prisoner conducts himself so badly as to induce the Committee to report him to the Secretary of State as incorrigible, he falls back on his original Sentence, and is then removed to the Hulks or transported.

Has any Effect been produced on the Conduct of Prisoners since it has been known in what a different Manner the Sentence of Transportation is inflicted upon those who are in the Colony than it used to be?

I do not think there has; I do not think there is any greater Dread of Transportation now than formerly.

Are they aware how much greater Punishment they are subjected to when they are actually transported than they used to be?

I think they are not.

Do

Do not you think it is desirable that should be notified to them? *Rev. W. Russell.*

It is constantly notified to them. Many behave ill with a view to be reported incorrigible, that they may be removed from the Institution; and we endeavour to represent to them the Condition in which they will be, but they cannot be persuaded to believe the Statement; they think that they will be placed in the Circumstances in which they hear that others have been,—that they get into good Places, get good Masters, get Liberty Tickets after a short Time, and we cannot reason the Prisoners out of that Conviction.

He hopes he shall have the same Liberty that others have had?

Yes, and that it is a great deal better to get out to the Colony. They are forcibly withdrawn from a Course of Conduct which, if they have had the Courage, they would break off themselves. They cannot be convinced of the Severity of the Punishment now inflicted in the Colonies. We have Instances of Prisoners who behave exceedingly ill with a view to be sent Abroad, and I have obtained the most accurate Information I could as to the Condition of the Prisoners in the Colonies, and have spent Hours in endeavouring to convince the Prisoners what would be their Condition if they succeeded in getting their Object.

Is it not so constantly the Practice to recommend a shorter Period of Punishment in consequence of good Behaviour, that the Prisoner, on going in for a certain Number of Years, depends upon receiving that Recommendation of a shorter Imprisonment?

Yes; he is in fact told, "If you conduct yourself well, (and this constitutes good Conduct, Obedience to the Officers, Diligence in Work, and, above all, Attention to the Advice and Instruction of the Chaplain,) you will be recommended, and nothing but this will induce the Committee to recommend you to a short Punishment;" he is told that, being sentenced to Seven Years Transportation, at the End of Three Years he will be recommended for Pardon if his Conduct is good; and if he was not told so he would by his own Observation very soon arrive at that Information; but as it is used as an Inducement to good Conduct we tell them, "See what will be the Reward of good Conduct; if you observe these Regulations, if you are submissive and are industrious, and attend to the Advice given you, you will obtain Liberty at the End of Three Years; if not, you will stay Five."

It signifies not whether it proceeds from Hypocrisy or a real Improvement in the Mind of the Prisoner?

Not the least.

If the Committee should see that it was from Hypocrisy, it would not alter their Determination because the Man had conformed himself to the Rules?

I conceive not.

Do you find many who have been discharged for good Conduct returning again?

But few of those who leave the Penitentiary are re-convicted.

Is not that an Evidence of good Conduct?

I have no Doubt a great Reformation is effected; but I wish to show how much more would be effected if the System were more perfect, and I consider not only the Effect on the Individual, but on the Public. I consider that all penal Discipline should have the Effect of deterring from Crime, as well as reforming the Individual, and those Two Objects must never be separated; and my Observations go to show that a Person who has not yet committed Crime, but is balancing the Profit and the Pleasure of it against its Risk, may be induced to reason with himself thus, "Even if I am detected, I have only to behave well for a short Time, and I shall then get out."

You were understood to state that no Prisoner who has been discharged from the Penitentiary has again been convicted?

No, I think I said but few.

How far back do you refer to when you state that?

I can only refer back to my own Time, a Period of Five Years; but in the Reports made to Parliament annually it will be seen what is the Number of those Persons who have obtained a Gratuity for good Conduct, and also of

Rev. W. Russell.

those who we have ascertained have fallen back to bad Courses, and been re-convicted.

These Statements are contained in the Reports made annually from the Penitentiary?

Yes. Perhaps the Committee are not aware of a Regulation peculiar, I believe, to the Penitentiary. After a Prisoner has been Twelve Months discharged from the Penitentiary, if he can produce Testimonials from his Employers, from the Clergyman of the Parish, and other respectable Individuals, that he has been conducting himself in an exemplary Manner, he is then awarded a Gratuity not exceeding 3*l.*, and great Pains are taken in verifying these Testimonials. This is an Inducement for them to come back to us to inform us where they are; by this we are enabled to trace a great Number of our discharged Prisoners; a great Number obtain this Gratuity; but I submit it is the Minimum of the well-behaved who do so for these Reasons: — A great many who are going on well, and could produce the requisite Testimonials, will not return to the Penitentiary for any Consideration — Pride prevents them; others would lose their Situation, and the Character they have regained, by making it known where they had been; and others again die, others again quit the Country; others again, not having been able to obtain any permanent Situation, are unable to produce the necessary Certificates. When, therefore, the Minimum of the well-behaved amounts from One Third to One Half of those who are discharged, it is an undoubted Proof that there is a great deal of Good effected by the Penitentiary as a Means of Reformation; though, if that which I have observed were enforced, I think the Reformation would be carried still further, and also the Effect of deterring from Crime would be still greater.

Do you think it would be advisable, after the Boys and Girls in the Penitentiary have been kept there Two or Three Years, that Facility should be given for getting them Employment in His Majesty's Colonies?

I think it would be.

Is it not very difficult, more particularly for the Females, to get into respectable Situations in this Country after they come out of the Penitentiary?

Exceedingly difficult; and one of the Observations I have made in my Paper, now before your Lordships, respects the Importance of giving Facilities of emigrating to those who have been convicted.

You have Girls come into the Penitentiary as young as Ten, have you not?

We have had; we have none so young now.

Have you Reason to believe that they had had Communication with Boys or Men previous to their being sent to the Penitentiary?

I have known Instances where they have communicated to me that they have been following a Course of Prostitution at the early Age of Ten Years.

Therefore that makes it much more difficult to get them Situations after they come out?

Much more difficult. I remember Three Girls came into the Penitentiary, Two of Ten and One of Eleven, all convicted of the same Offence; they all had been Prostitutes, they all had been confirmed Gin-drinkers, and they all died in the Penitentiary from broken-down Constitutions. I do not think the System of Separation and Silence of which I have been speaking is at all suited to Children of that Age; I think a very different System of Prison Discipline should be enforced in respect to very young Persons; I beg to limit my Observations as to Silence and Separation to Adults, both Male and Female.

You have no Tread-mill in the Penitentiary?

No.

You have Children sent from the Gaols in the Country to the Penitentiary; do you not think it more difficult to reform those who come from the Metropolis, and who may be called Thieves by Education?

I think the London Thieves are much more impracticable; I anticipate much more favourable Results from the Country Thieves than from the London Thieves.

A great

67

Rev. W. Russell.

A great many of the Country Thieves come to you with hardly a Knowledge of what is right or wrong, do they not?

They come with hardly a Knowledge of Right and Wrong as far as the Science of Crime goes, and in general the Convicts from the Country are much more ignorant than those from large Towns. My Opinion is always more unfavourable as to the Reformation of a young Prisoner than as to that of an Adult; a very young Convict is generally a Thief by Education; the Adult may be, and often is, a Convict in consequence of the Concurrence of unhappy Circumstances; but with the Children they are almost all Convicts through Education, and therefore I have invariably less Hope of a young Prisoner than of an adult Convict.

That Circumstance would tend to confirm your Opinion how desirable it is that those young Persons should have the Means afforded them of going out to the Colonies?

Yes; I anxiously desire their Removal altogether out of the Country.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

The Duke of Richmond delivers in to the Committee a Paper, prepared under the Direction of the Clerk, containing Extracts which he had directed to be made from the Gaol Returns of 1833 and 1834, of those Parts which relate to the Observance of Silence.

The same are read, and are as follow:

EXTRACTS from GAOL REPORTS of VISITING MAGISTRATES, &c. of the under-mentioned Prisons, as far as they relate to keeping Silence among Prisoners confined therein, in the Years 1833 and 1834.

Reports of 1833.

BEDFORD.—(*Page* 6 *of printed Report.*) "It was found difficult, if not impracticable, to keep the Convicts in the New House of Correction silent and separated during Work and Relay Intervals; this was owing in some Degree to the Age and Infirmities of the Turnkey."—(*Page* 7.) "The Visiting Justices strongly recommend a strict Perseverance and progressive Improvement in the recently-adopted System of enforcing Silence and Separation when at work, and during the Relay Intervals, and at Meal Times."—(*Page* 8.) "The Court approved the Plan adopted by the Visiting Justices, requiring the Convicts to walk in Silence and Separation during the Relay Intervals of the Treadmill."

"The System now pursued towards Convicts sentenced to hard Labour with respect to Separation, Silence, and yet avoiding the dangerous Expedient of solitary Confinement and Seclusion, appeared to be so effective as a correctional Discipline, that, however unwilling the Visiting Justices were to increase the Expenditure of the County Rate, they feel it to be their Duty to recommend the Erection of such a Shed over the Tread wheels in the old House of Correction as will enable the System to be regularly pursued during cold or inclement Weather."

BERKS House of Correction and Bridewell at ABINGDON.—(*Page* 16.) "Reasons for Punishment by solitary Confinement are chiefly for being noisy and idle at their Work."

"The Prisoners only meet when at Labour, and are prohibited talking at any Time. This Measure was taken in consequence of the Number of Prisoners who return from Time to Time; throughout the greater Part of the Year nearly One Half of the Prisoners in Confinement have been here before, some from Two to Twenty Times."

MIDDLESEX House of Correction, COLD BATH FIELDS.—(*Page* 158.) "The Discipline of the Prison as a House of Correction is, as far as practicable, strictly enforced. The Prisoners are required to observe Silence during the Hours of Labour."

SOMERSET, WILTON.—(*Page* 208.) "Prisoners not keeping Silence during the Hours of Labour are punished."

SUSSEX.—(*Page* 243.) "The Visiting Justices also remind the Keeper and Turnkeys that they consider it essential to Prison Discipline that strict Silence should be uniformly kept among the Prisoners whilst at work."

(*Page* 250.) "Strict Silence must be enforced in our Prisons."

YORK, West Riding.—(*Page* 287.) "The Visiting Justices report that they are about to revise the Rules and Regulations for the Management of the Gaol, and their Attention has been particularly drawn to the American System of keeping perfect Silence in the Gaol."

Reports of 1834.

DEVONSHIRE.—(*Page* 3 *in MS. Report.*) "They could not express too strongly their Conviction of the Necessity of enforcing as much as possible a strict Prohibition to Conversation and written Communications, and to repress all talking."—(*Page* 8.) "The Punishments are not severe enough to deter Men from the Commission of Offences while they can freely converse in their Day-rooms and at Meals."—(*Page* 11.) "Silence should be preserved when congregated for Work or Exercise."—(*Page* 12.) "Most perfect Silence should be enforced by the instant Application of the Lash upon him who utters a single Word." "It has been tried in America with some Success at first, but according to recent Information has been abused and discontinued."—(*Page* 15.) "No Attempt has hitherto been made to enforce Silence among Females."—(*Page* 16.) "The Secretary of State for the Home Department has turned a favourable Attention to the System of Separation and Silence."—(*Page* 17.) "The Preservation of entire Silence is extremely desirable to effect."—(*Page* 19.) "That a Rule for the Observance of Silence be made, and submitted to the Judges at the ensuing Assizes."—(*Page* 20.) "That Silence was much more observed than it used to be, and that the Governor had in no Instance been obliged to resort to Punishment to enforce it."—(*Page* 21.) "That the Wardsmen, Cooks, and Turnkeys should take especial Care to preserve strict Silence during Meals, as well as during working Hours."

DORSET.—(*Page* 3.) "Their Attention has to this Time been principally called to the Enforcement of Silence."

HERTFORD.—(*Page* 4.) "For the Purpose of making the Punishment of the Tread-wheel more effectual, it has been thought advisable to make the Prisoners labour in Silence under the Superintendence of the Turnkey."

LANCASTER, County.—(*Page* 3.) "There has been a Committee of Magistrates recently appointed to consider the Propriety of introducing the System of Silence."

NORTHAMPTON, County.—(*Page* 5.) "Fifty-seven are in solitary Confinement for Felony, fighting, talking at work, and being off the Tread-wheel out of their Turns," &c.

SUFFOLK, BURY.—(*Page* 9.) "The unemployed Convicts during the Hours of Labour walked round their respective Yards in Indian File at Two Yards Distance. Mr. Oridge enforced Silence as much as possible."

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—(*Page* 4.) "Magistrates recommend the Adoption of such Parts of the Rules and Regulations of Wakefield as relate to Silence."

WAKEFIELD, YORK, W. R.—(*Page* 3.) "The Visiting Justices lost no Time in carrying into effect the new Rules; they were certified by the Judges of Assize on the 27th of March, and on the Morning of the 16th of April an entire new System of Discipline was introduced without Difficulty, Opposition, or Hindrance, through the Enforcement of the Rule requiring Silence throughout the Prison; the Evil of Two Prisoners being obliged to sleep in one Bed was removed by fitting up some of the Day-rooms, and latterly a long Work-room, as Dormitories. These, by proper Inspection, have answered the desired Purpose; few Instances (and those of trivial Nature) have occurred of any Infraction of the Rule of Silence within the Rooms, whilst the single Cells have, with a few Exceptions only, received a single Occupant."

"The Effect on the Prisoners is very striking; the most hardened and depraved are subdued and orderly, and if not amended, at least cannot be corrupted by evil Communication; and those not entirely lost to all Sense of Propriety, although they feel the Irksomeness of Obedience to the Rule, hail it as their best Security against the immoral Contagion of their Fellow Prisoners. They are happy to state, that, accompanied with strict Silence, perfect Decorum, and general Civility, the Prisoners manifest evident Cheerfulness in their Countenances and Manner."

"Each Prisoner is now furnished with a Bible and Prayer Book, and a large Proportion of the Prisoners make that pious Use of them which before Ridicule and false Shame in a great measure prevented."

"Although, doubtless, Experience may point out some beneficial Alterations in the practical working of the System, they have now no Doubt of the good Effects that must result from it, nor do they feel the least Difficulty in the Execution, requiring nothing more than a Continuation of the Activity, Zeal, and Firmness of the Keeper, with active Superintendents, combined with a Kindness of Demeanor towards the Prisoners."

"The Enlargement of the Prison for Females is going on, but no new Regulations have been yet attempted, and the Contrast between the Noise and Disorder among them and the Silence and Obedience of the Men is very great and painful."

"The Chaplain reports as follows:—In commendation of the great Improvement that has taken place in the Wakefield House of Correction since the Introduction of the new System of Silence, the Chaplain feels unable to express himself in Terms sufficiently strong."

"The Prisoners, unable now as once they were to communicate with each other in the crowded Yards, and to spend their unemployed Hours in swearing, gaming, and devising Plots for the future, are now to be seen cheerfully and quietly engaged in reading the various Religious Books and Bibles supplied by the Chaplain."

69

"The eager Desire to read evinced by all who are able, together with the Attendance at daily Prayer, it may confidently be hoped will be, under the Blessing of Heaven, the Means of much benefiting the Prisoners here confined, and making them hereafter better Members of Society."

"Indeed it cannot be possible that Men necessarily driven to much Reading and Reflection, from the Strictness with which Silence is enforced, can pass any Length of Time without being influenced for the better in their Feelings and after Conduct. Within the last Six Months the Chaplain has supplied each sleeping Cell with a Testament, about Twenty Bibles have been distributed among those who particularly requested them, and the Prisoners have also been supplied with such small Tracts and Books of a Moral and Religious Nature as the Chaplain considered the most suitable."

"The Chaplain has lately begun a Sunday School in which the Boys capable of learning them have had short Prayers given to get by Heart, others have been taught their Catechism and to read, and a few Men who could not read have been taught to spell."

"By the Opportunities thus given under the new System of reading, reflecting, and learning, the Chaplain feels Pleasure in the Confidence he can express that there are not wanting Proofs that some have found Spiritual Benefit, and are showing, by the tender Blade of Improvement springing up, that the good Seed of the Word has not been sown in vain."

SURREY, BRIXTON.—(*Page* 7.) "At the Tread-wheel Silence is enforced."

SUSSEX, LEWES.—(*Page* 10.) The Visiting Justices report, "That they had at each of their Visits been pleased with the Attention of the Keeper in preserving Silence."

SUSSEX, HORSHAM.—(*Pages* 3, 4, 5.) "The Prisoners work in Classes and in Silence."

WESTMORLAND.—(*Page* 1.) The Report of the Visiting Magistrates states, "That the Discipline of the Prison at Appleby is much improved by the Introduction of the System of Silence and Non-intercourse."

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Friday next, Eleven o'Clock.

Die Veneris, 10° *Aprilis* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

The Right Honourable The Earl of CHICHESTER, a Member of the Committee, is examined as follows:

You are Chairman of the Quarter Sessions for the Eastern Division of the County of Sussex, and One of the Visiting Justices of the Lewes House of Correction?
I am.

Are you of opinion that the System of enforcing Silence in Prisons is desirable?
Decidedly.

Have you seen the Experiment tried?
To a certain Extent in the Lewes House of Correction. From last Michaelmas Sessions, the Time at which our new separate Cells were completed, we began enforcing Silence to the Extent to which we thought we were justified under the Provisions of the Gaol Act; and we have subsequently prepared Two Rules, which we have submitted to the Judges of Assize, for enforcing it more rigidly. The Rules are taken from the Regulations for the Prison at Wakefield, which were approved by the Judges at the Spring Assizes of last Year. They are to this Effect:—1st, No Prisoner shall be permitted, on any Account or under any Pretence, to speak to or hold any Communication with any other Prisoner without special Leave for that Purpose first obtained from the Keeper. 2d, The Keeper may order any Prisoner guilty of a Breach of this Rule to be deprived of his or her Supper, or placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days. These Rules were confirmed, as it respects Lewes House of Correction, at the last Assizes, and we are at present acting upon them.

What has been the Effect, in your Opinion?
Good, as far as we are enabled to judge during the very short Period of the Experiment. I consider the general Discipline of the Prison has been promoted by it; and I am inclined to think that the Diminution in Commitments for Trial which has taken place during the present Quarter, as compared with the corresponding Quarter of last Year, is partly owing to the stricter Discipline occasioned by the Enforcement of Silence and Separation.

LEWES HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Statement of Prisoners committed.

	For Trial.	Vagrants.	Under other summary Convictions.	Deserters.	Total.
From 24th December 1833 to 25th March 1834 -	73	65	79	2	219
From 24th December 1834 to 25th March 1835 -	42	97	79	1	219

Diminution in Commitments for Trial in favour of the Quarter ending 25th March 1835, 45 per Cent.

Earl of Chichester.

Have many Prisoners been punished for infringing the Regulation enacting Silence?

Not very frequently, because we only felt justified in punishing them when the Breach of the Rule against Silence could be considered as a Breach of general Prison Discipline, or when it approached to any thing like disorderly Conduct. The mere Fact of a Communication between one Prisoner and another we did not feel justified in punishing 'till the Rules before mentioned were approved by the Judges.

Do you know what Effect it had on the Prisoners themselves; have you had the Means of ascertaining from the Prisoners their Feelings as to this Regulation?

I have not personally been able to ascertain it, but I am told that the Dread of going to Prison has been generally very much increased among disorderly Characters in the Neighbourhood, particularly at Brighton, since the Prisoners have been confined in separate Cells.

You are aware that this Regulation has been carried into execution in the Western Division of the County of Sussex, in the House of Correction at Petworth, previous to its being enacted at Lewes?

Yes, to the limited Extent before mentioned; I think we began at the same Time, last Michaelmas.

Are you of opinion that an uniform System of Prison Discipline ought to be enacted in every Prison in this Country?

Decidedly; but I apprehend that no Alteration in the Gaol Act would of itself secure such an Enactment being completely carried into effect, any more than some of the most salutary Provisions of the Gaol Act are at present; many of them being, I am sorry to say, totally evaded in a great Number of our Prisons.

Would not the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons tend very much to remove that Evil?

Very much. I conceive that your Lordships will find that the Regulations of many of the Prisons are not only at variance with each other, but at variance with the Gaol Act, and the Discipline will naturally be found still less uniform and consistent than the Regulations. As long, therefore, as the making of those Regulations, and the enforcing them, are left solely to the Visiting Justices, no very great Uniformity of Discipline will probably be secured.

Does not the Chaplain of the Lewes House of Correction devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of that Prison?

The whole.

Do you not think it most desirable that in a Prison containing as many Prisoners as are committed to the Lewes House of Correction that the Chaplain should devote the whole of his Time to the Prison?

Decidedly. I conceive myself that even the smallest Prison might well occupy the Time of a really zealous and efficient Chaplain.

Is your Lordship aware that the Magistrates of the County of Sussex, at a General Sessions of the County, have come to the Decision, that in future the Chaplain of the Sussex County Gaol shall devote the whole of his Time to the Service of that Prison?

Yes, I am.

Have you any Suggestion to make to the Committee for any Amendment of the Gaol Act?

I consider the general Provisions of that Act, and its general Machinery, to be extremely good; and provided a Central Board of Inspection were constituted, very few Alterations in the Gaol Act would be necessary. I conceive that one general Clause would be required to be added to it for the Enforcement of Silence, and for making some Alteration with respect to Classification and the Use of Day-rooms, the Necessity of which would be entirely superseded by requiring entire Separation except during the Hours of Labour. With those Exceptions, I am inclined to think that the present Gaol Act would require very little Alteration, except also an additional Enactment for the Purpose of organizing and giving the proper Authority to a Central and Superintending Board such as that to which I have alluded.

Are

73

Are you an Advocate for more frequent Gaol Deliveries and intermediate Sessions? *Earl of Chichester.*

Certainly for intermediate Sessions. I think we have derived great Benefit from them in the Eastern Division of the County of Sussex since they have been adopted. We find, not only that we get rid of the Evil and Injustice of long Confinement previous to Trial, but also there is a considerable Saving of Expense, both as regards the Maintenance of Prisoners and the average Cost of Prosecutions, the Expense of Prosecutions at the Sessions having been much less than at the Assizes.

Do you think the Practice of taking Bail for minor Offences should be more frequently resorted to?

I am inclined to think it should, but it is a Point to which I have but very lately turned my Attention, and upon which, therefore, I do not feel inclined to express a very decided Opinion.

Do you think beneficial Effects would arise from the Formation of a Tribunal before which minor Offences and juvenile Offenders might be tried; for instance, giving Authority to Justices in Petty Sessions to empannel a Jury of Five or Six?

I think it most desirable that some more summary Way of proceeding should be adopted with regard to Offences of this Sort, and I apprehend that in most Instances a very competent Tribunal might be formed in the Manner proposed. I only fear that in some Instances it might be rather difficult to empannel an impartial Jury at the Petty Sessions.

On Days that should be notified to the County by Advertisement, and to make it an open Court?

Decidedly. My only Reason for stating that I thought there would be some Difficulty in empannelling an impartial Jury was, that as it would be felt to be a Hardship upon them if taken from a Distance the Jury must be constituted of Persons resident on the Spot; and if so, many of the Cases which would come before them would be very much connected with their own local Feelings and local Animosities.

Supposing that the Persons serving on the Jury before the Petty Sessions were to be excused from attending the Jury of the County, do you then think there would be a Difficulty in procuring Persons from a Distance of Ten or Twelve Miles who might prefer attending the Petty Sessions Jury to being obliged to go to the Assizes or Quarter Sessions, at a Distance often, in Sussex, of Twenty or Thirty Miles?

I think that would materially diminish if not destroy the Objection. I entertain no Doubt that those Persons would prefer serving on the Jury at Petty Sessions to serving on the other Juries, from the shorter Period during which their Services would be required.

Would you select one particular Class of Offences for Trial before this Tribunal?

My own Impression is, that they should be the smallest Kind of Felonies; Petty Larcenies, for instance.

Could you conveniently determine what Class of Cases should be so tried; or might it not be better, after the Calendar was prepared, to allow the Justices themselves to make the Selection?

I think that the Selection should be made previous to Commitment.

And the Justices to select what Cases should be tried before this Tribunal?

I decidedly think that some discretionary Power ought to be left with the Justices for selecting.

Take the following Case: A Farmer complains to a Magistrate, and requests a Warrant against an Individual for stealing from him a Rail, which by Law is at present a Felony; would you give the Magistrates the Power of saying, I will give you a Warrant, and the Person shall be tried before this new Tribunal on the following Saturday? If the Prisoner there did not ask for further Time to prepare his Defence, you would see no Objection to this Man being tried by that Tribunal. If, on the contrary, the Justices thought that he was an

Earl of Chichester.

old Offender, and that the Offence was a grave one, that they should have the Power of committing him for Trial at the Quarter Sessions or Assizes?
Yes, that is exactly the Sort of Case for such a Tribunal.

Giving therefore the Justices the Power of selecting those Cases which they thought came under this Head?
Yes.

In point of fact, minor Felonies of this Description are of very frequent Occurrence in Agricultural Districts?
Very much so.

You have heard of a Man being committed to Gaol for stealing an Egg?
Yes.

Others for stealing Two Pounds of Meat?
There was one for stealing Two Pounds of Meat, and another for stealing a dead Rabbit, at our last Quarter Sessions. I should say those were both Cases that might be very well decided before the Tribunal alluded to.

The Judge sentenced the Man for stealing the Meat to Two Days Imprisonment?
The Trial your Lordships allude to was at the Assizes; I alluded to another.

Do you not believe that under the present System many Persons go out of Prison much worse than when committed?
Decidedly; and as long as the Day-room System is continued I do not see how it should be otherwise.

Does it not appear to you that there might be Three Alternatives as to determining in what Way this new Mode of Trial should be arranged. In the first place, whether it is most desirable that the committing Magistrates should select what Party should be tried by this Tribunal; and next, whether it is desirable that it should be determined by the Justices themselves at the Petty Sessions, after seeing the Calendar; or whether it is desirable that it should be determined by the Direction of the Law itself as to a particular Class of Cases to which the proposed Tribunal should be applied?
I think there might be a Limitation of both Kinds. I think it desirable that the Law should limit the Amount of Punishment to be awarded at the Petty Sessions; that would be a Limit to a certain Extent; it might also add another, by specifying the Description of Offences.

But of those Three Modes of determining, which strikes your Lordship as the most desirable?
I am inclined to think the discretionary Power of the Magistrates should be exercised at the Time of the Commitment, rather than at the Petty Sessions, when the Calendar is printed.

Would you define the minor Offences in relation to the Amount of Property stolen?
Certainly. I would just allude to the Inconvenience of committing Offenders of the Class above mentioned for Trial at a remote Sessions or Assizes: For instance, I will take the Case of this Man who was committed for stealing Two Pounds of Meat; on the Score of his having been Three Weeks in Prison previous to Trial the Judge only sentenced him to Two Days further Imprisonment, he had therefore only Two Days of the really salutary Discipline of the Prison, though he cost the County as much as if he had been committed for Three Weeks to hard Labour.

Therefore producing a bad Effect upon the Public, who might believe that the Judge thought Two Days Punishment enough for the Offence, though most probably the Judge took into his Consideration the previous Confinement of the Prisoner before Trial on this Charge?
Yes.

Do you mean to leave the Option to the Prisoner of being tried at the Quarter Sessions or Petty Session Tribunal?
Certainly; I see no Objection to that.

Do you know the average Number of Prisoners in the Lewes House of Correction?

113 is the Average of last Year.

Have you had any Conversation with the Chaplain of the Lewes House of Correction with relation to the System of enacting Silence?

I have not very recently, but he has told me that he thought Separation and Solitude extremely favourable to the Cause of Religious Instruction, and that they gave great Facilities for Religious Instruction and Religious Improvement.

Your Lordship has mentioned a Board of Inspection; have you any Suggestion to make upon that Subject?

There is one very important Consideration connected with the Establishment of a Central Board upon which I should like to make a few Remarks to the Committee; I mean as to the Effect it might have upon the Competency and Efficiency of Prison Officers. I conceive that if a Central Board of Inspection was constituted, and that such Board had the Power of making Regulations under the Gaol Act, and also of inspecting their Execution, it would be extremely desirable that there should be One or more Central Prisons more immediately under their Control. These should be situated either in the Metropolis or its immediate Vicinity, and would serve as Model Prisons for the rest of the Country. Then, with respect to the Effect they would have on the Officers of Prisons, I conceive that in these Establishments there should always be a certain Number of supernumerary Officers, who would have the Means of there learning the National System, and of thus fitting themselves to take the Situations of Governors and Officers in other Prisons. So that these Central Establishments would answer the Purpose, not only of Model Prisons and Fields of Experiment for the National System of Discipline, but would also serve as Normal Schools for the Instruction and Education of Governors and other Prison Officers. I feel particularly anxious upon this Point, because, although there is no great Difficulty in getting competent Men, as far as Intelligence and Character go, yet it is absolutely impossible to obtain Men for the Situations who have any adequate Knowledge of Prison Discipline.

Do you think it would be preferable to place a Power in the Board rather than in the Secretary of State?

The Board might, and I think should, be under the Secretary of State.

Would you not give the Magistrates the Power of appointing the Gaolers?

Decidedly.

Confining the Appointment to a certain Class of Individuals?

I think it might in most Cases be left optional. My Idea respecting these supernumerary Officers would be this; a certain Number of them should always be kept in the Establishment at the Public Expense, and also a certain limited Number who might be sent for the Purpose of Instruction from the different Counties and other Places. The Expense of the latter should be charged upon the several Counties and Places which send them.

You would confine the Appointment of Gaolers by the Magistrates to that Class of Persons who had been educated in Model Prisons?

I think I should prefer vesting a discretionary Power in the Board to remove incompetent Officers if it was necessary, and to place others in their Room.

Would the Gaolers be likely to attend to the Orders of the Magistrates, unless there was a controlling Power on the Part of the Magistrates of dismissing?

No; but I would still give the Magistrates the Power of dismissing. I would give the Board the same Sort of discretionary Power as the Poor Law Commissioners have over the Guardians with respect to Governors of Workhouses; I would not give it the Power of fixing the Salaries.

Do you not conceive the Penitentiary would afford sufficient Knowledge to any Person who was desirous of learning his Duty?

I am afraid that the present Penitentiary would require very great Alterations before it could be made capable of adopting the System I should like to see.

Earl of Chichester.

Suppose any Alterations were made in the Construction of the Penitentiary, could it not be adopted as a Model Prison for other Prisons?

I think it might after considerable Alterations.

Does not your Lordship think, that if a competent Number of Inspectors were appointed, either under a Central Board or under the Secretary of State, that Prison Discipline might be enforced in every Prison in the Kingdom?

It would depend of course on the Power you gave to the Secretary of State for enforcing the Regulations that would be drawn up.

Supposing the Power now possessed by the Judges of sanctioning the Rules and Regulations was transferred to the Secretary of State, would that not be sufficient, particularly if the Power was given to him of drawing up general Rules and Regulations for every Prison?

Yes, I think the Power would be sufficient, if duly exercised. The only Question would be, whether it could not be better vested in other Hands.

In what Manner does your Lordship think it would be most expedient to proceed with the View of enforcing Silence?

I believe that the only effectual Mode of detecting the Breach of Silence, according to the present Construction of Prisons, is by having a certain Number of Watchmen constantly perambulating the Prison, both within and without the Buildings in which the Prisoners are confined.

Do you think that more Officers would be required, or do you propose appointing Monitors?

I don't think it requires any great Number for that Purpose.

Do you allude to the Time when the Prisoners are at work or in separate Cells?

Separate Cells.

Would more Officers be required when the Prisoners are at work?

It must depend on the Number of Prisoners; but I think in many of our Prisons there is already a sufficient Superintendence of that Kind when the Prisoners are on the Tread-wheel. I should say that for a Tread-wheel of moderate Extent One Turnkey is quite sufficient for that Purpose, provided the Wheel is divided into Compartments so as entirely to prevent the Prisoners seeing each other when on it.

To watch the Prisoners on the Tread-wheel as well as those off?

Yes, both. There is a greater Difficulty, I apprehend, in enforcing Silence at other Kinds of Manufacture, because the Prisoners are more dispersed.

Have you any Employment in the House of Correction at Lewes with the Exception of the Tread-wheel?

Yes; we have a Manufacture of several different Articles, principally Mop-heads and Mats.

Do you conceive that you have Officers enough in the Lewes House of Correction to enforce Silence?

I think we want One more.

Does your Lordship think it a good System to employ the Prisoners as Wardsmen or Monitors?

I am very doubtful of it.

What are the Punishments you think most desirable to resort to to enforce Silence?

Solitary Confinement.

Confinement without the Power of speaking to any one?

Yes.

Do you think that the Power to the Gaoler of punishing with solitary Confinement should be extended to a longer Period than he now has by the Gaol Act?

I think not, for merely a Breach of the Rule respecting Silence, but for general Purposes I am inclined to think that the Power should be extended.

77

Earl of Chichester.

Do you mean that it is not desirable that it should be carried into execution for a longer Period than the Three Days?

I think that for the Breach of that One Rule it should be limited to Three Days, unless with the Authority of the Visiting Justices.

Has the Power which exists in the Gaoler to confine for Three Days for a Breach of the Regulation of Silence been found effectual at the Lewes House of Correction?

We have not tried the Three Days yet; we have only been empowered to act on that Rule since the last Assizes.

There has been no such flagrant Breach of the Regulation as to make it necessary to resort to it?

The Rules which I have just read to your Lordships have only been really in force since last Week; but to a limited Extent we had previously punished by solitary Confinement in separate Cells, and by a reduced Allowance.

You think resorting to solitary Confinement as a Punishment is preferable to the Diminution of Diet, or Flogging?

It is usual, under solitary Confinement, to reduce the Diet to Bread and Water, and a diminished Quantity of the former. The regular Diet for Prisoners in solitary Confinement in all Gaols is, I believe, limited to Bread and Water; and the Allowance of Bread is, I believe, generally One Pound under those Circumstances. Uniformity of Diet, with due Allowance for local Circumstances, has always appeared to me a most important Matter for general Regulation. In the Absence of any general Rule upon this Subject the Dietaries of Prisons will vary very much, according to the various Notions and Theories of individual Surgeons, the Magistrates not generally being disposed to reduce the Diet below what their own Surgeon may prescribe. I have found, however, that where Magistrates have taken upon themselves to order a low Diet, giving full Power to the Surgeon to order extra when necessary, the Prisoners have been remarkably healthy, and the Charge for Extras very low. This has been the Case at Northampton Gaol and Horseley House of Correction in Gloucestershire. I subjoin an Account of the Dietaries of those Two Prisons, compared with Two others where the Diet is much higher and more varied, showing also the Proportion of Sick. The Situation of all Four is remarkably healthy.

NORTHAMPTON HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

DIETARY.			Proportion of Sick.
	Bread.	Soup.	1834.
Prisoners for Trial, or sentenced for a longer Period than One Month - - - -	1½ lb.	1 Quart.	
Prisoners sentenced for less than One Month, and during the last Month for all - - -	1½ lb.	—	under 2 per Cent.
Prisoners convicted who have been in Prison before within the last Two Years - - -	1 lb.	1 Quart.	

HORSELEY HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

DIETARY.				Proportion of Sick.
	Bread.	Oatmeal in Gruel.	Potatoes.	1834.
Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour -	1½ lb.	1¼ oz.	1½ lb.	under 1¾ per Cent.
Other Prisoners - - - -	1½ lb.	1¼ oz.	1 lb.	

Earl of Chichester.

LEICESTER HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

DIETARY.					Proportion of Sick.
	Bread.	New Milk.	Soup.	Potatoes.	Gruel.	1834.
Prisoners for hard Labour	28 oz.	½ Pint.	1 Pint.	1 lb.	1½ Pint.	
Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour - - - -	Bread. 28 oz.		Gruel. 3 Pints.		Potatoes. 1 lb.	6⅔ per Cent.

GLOUCESTER HOUSE OF CORRECTION. 1832.

DIETARY.					Proportion of Sick.
Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour:					1832.
Sundays and Thursdays	Bread. 1½ lb.	Gruel, Oatmeal. 1½ oz. with Vegetables.	Beef without Bone. 12 oz.	Potatoes. 1 lb.	
Mondays and Fridays.	Bread. 1½ lb.	Gruel, Oatmeal. 1½ oz. with Vegetables.		Peas. ¾ Pint, boiled, with Broth from the Meat of the preceding Day.	20 per Cent.
Tuesdays -	Bread. 1½ lb.	Vegetables. 2 lb.	or	Cheese. ¼ lb.	
Wednesdays - -	Bread. 1½ lb.	Rice. 1½ oz.		Oatmeal Gruel. 1¼ oz.	
Saturdays - -	Bread. 1½ lb.	Cheese. ¼ lb.			

GLOUCESTER HOUSE OF CORRECTION. 1834.

DIETARY.				Proportion of Sick.
	Bread.	Gruel, Oatmeal.	Potatoes.	1834.
Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour -	1½ lb.	1½ oz.	2 lb.	None.

Rev. John Ousby.

The Reverend JOHN OUSBY, Chaplain of Coldbath Fields Prison, is called in, and examined as follows:

You are Chaplain of Coldbath Fields Prison?
Yes.

How long have you held that Situation?
From January 1824; nearly Ten Years and a Half.

Lately there has been a new System of Discipline established in that Prison?
It has been improving in Discipline ever since I entered the Gaol.

Is it much better, in your Opinion, now, and more likely to reform the Prisoners, than when you first knew it?
Considerably so.

Do you think that the System of exacting Silence is calculated to benefit the Inmates of the Gaol?
I should think it would benefit them very greatly; it has been tried but a very short Time, consequently we cannot yet see its practical Effects; but I

should judge from it rationally in this Way, that it must be of great Importance to the Prisoners, for "out of the Abundance of the Heart the Mouth speaketh," and what the Prisoners say, being themselves corrupt, would be to corrupt one another.

Are many juvenile Offenders committed to Coldbath Fields Prison?
A great many.

Have you often seen the same Boys committed over and over again?
Perhaps Half of them are committed Once or Twice or Three Times, and then after that we conceive there is very little Hope of reclaiming them by doing any thing for them in Society so as to remove them from being Inmates of Prisons.

Some of them have been committed more than Three Times, and still continue to be committed?
I think some of them have been there Ten Years, committed from Time to Time; I recollect some Prisoners Three or Four or Five Years myself.

Do you think that it would be of advantage to these Boys, as well as for the Benefit of the Community at large, that after a Boy had been convicted Three or Four Times, and undergone his Sentence, and that it was found impossible to reform him, that he should be sent out of the Country to another Part of the Globe where he might form fresh Associations?
Under the Sanction of the Law.

Do you not think that it would be advisable, when the Punishment in our Prisons has been found not to have the Effect of reforming this Class of Prisoners, that they should be sent elsewhere?
I think in most Instances it would; in some Instances perhaps not. I give this as a Reason for it:—A Boy frequently wishes and is desirous of being reclaimed as he grows in Years; suppose he was committed at about Eleven or Twelve till he was about Fifteen, if he should be committed Two or Three Times, at that Time he would be very desirous, I think, of earning his Bread industriously and honestly; frequently I have known it to be the Case,—desirous to be saved; I save a great many in the course of the Year generally; some I reconcile to their Parents when they have begun to discover that Crime is not beneficial to them,—that they cannot live in it except with great Inconvenience, and desire to retire from it; their Friends also see that there is an Improvement in them, and if the Desire is real they are willing to be reconciled, and to give them that Aid they cannot receive 'till such favourable Opportunities occur.

Do you believe that permitting Prisoners under Sentence to receive Visits from their Friends is beneficial to them?
If their Friends or Relatives are Persons living in Society respectably; but if they should be Persons associating with the Prisoners out of Doors, I think all such Kind of Visits detrimental to the Prisoner.

The Boys are placed in separate Yards in the Coldbath Fields Prison?
Yes.

Do you find that a great Majority of the Boys who are committed have received any Education?
Most of the Prisoners have received Education. I took an Account of all the Prisoners previous to last October, and I think that, as far as I can charge my Memory with it, but about 170 out of 1,000 had not received any Education; by Education I mean the Ability to read and write so as to gain Information from Books.

Do you devote the whole of your Time to the Coldbath Fields Prison?
A great deal of Time I devote to it.

Do you find the Prisoners willing to take Religious Advice and Instruction?
They are exceedingly desirous of it. Their Conduct is very suitable while in Chapel. I never have Occasion, or but seldom, to make any Complaint of any of the Prisoners. I treat them with Kindness, and endeavour to speak to them in the plainest Manner possible, in reading the Lessons appointed for the Day from the New Testament, with an Exposition of Paragraph after Paragraph, that they may understand the Scriptures. They seem very attentive.

Rev. John Ousby.

Is there any School or Means of teaching those Prisoners in Coldbath Fields who cannot read and write?

We have a Schoolmaster, and they are taught in Five Schools, with the Assistance of Monitors selected from the Prisoners. Between 200 and 300 juvenile Prisoners are taught at a Time. In the Course of the Year upwards of 1,800 are under a Course of Education.

How far do you carry your Education; to what Extent do you instruct them?

Those that have not been educated at all we teach them to spell; to read the New Testament and the Bible; the Collects of the Church of England and the Church Catechism are repeated by Heart, and they are catechised once in a Week before the Congregation.

Are they thankful for receiving such Instruction?

Very thankful.

You have stated that a great Number were educated as far as Reading and Writing; did it appear to you that they had received any Religious Instruction at any of the Schools they had been at?

Many of them had. When I examined the whole Prison, which took me about a Week, and I was very minute in that Examination, it appeared then that, on the 23d October 1834, 967 Prisoners were examined as to their Education.

Of these 701 were Males 266 Females		967
Those uneducated; that is, not taught to read or write:		
First Imprisonment	56	104
Imprisoned before	48	
Those who could read and write:		
First Imprisonment	646	863
Imprisoned before	217	
Total of Prisoners undergoing their first Imprisonment		702
Of those imprisoned before		265

The Result to be drawn from this Statement is, that it is not the Want of Education, but the Absence of Principle, which leads to the Commission of Crime. Let Principle be but called into action, the stubborn Will is broken; the perverted Intellect—the more it is enlarged by Education in an exact Ratio the more capable it is rendered for the Commission of Crime—now becomes despicable; whereas, the Law of God pervading the Soul, all Obedience is now shown to the Laws of God and Man.

Have you any means of knowing any thing of the Prisoners after they leave Coldbath Fields, provided they are not re-committed to it?

I know many of them in the Situations in which I have placed them in Society, both as Servants and with their Parents, and in the Refuge for the Destitute, where I sent many of them last Year; I had sent to the Refuge Thirty-three Boys and Twenty-four Women.

Is not the Refuge for the Destitute one of the most useful Societies in this Country?

I think it is. Of all the beneficial Societies in the Kingdom I conceive it to be the best. Were but the Funds at the Disposal of the Committee doubled, ample Means for removing juvenile Offenders from the Region of Crime would be afforded; none that sought Admission there would be rejected.

Have you had any Opportunity of knowing what the Feeling of the Prisoners is with respect to the System of Silence?

They dislike it very much.

Do you believe that the better disposed Prisoners would dislike it as much as those of worse Character?

I think Man is a social Creature, and if you destroy his Sociality by preventing him from having Communication with his Fellows he cannot but dislike it; I think all would feel it.

Have you had any Prisoners return to you since the Period when Silence has been enforced?

I am not aware of any at present.

81

Will you have the goodness to state whether you think the System of Silence is really enforced? *Rev. John Ousby.*
I think, as far as it possibly can be enforced with us, it is.

Supposing that the System of Silence cannot be completely in every Instance carried into execution, do you not conceive that it is advisable to enforce it as far as possible?
I think it would be the most useful of any thing, as far as it could be carried.

Your Duty is only to see that the Prisoners behave properly when you communicate with them on Religious Subjects?
Mine is the Religious Office in the Prison; I interfere not with others. I have interfered when the Prison was in a State of Corruption, when I came to it, for Five Years. But, since the Change has taken place with respect to the Management of the Prisoners, every thing is in such an improved State, I should think I was stepping out of the Line of my own Duty, and my Conduct amiss, to attempt to say any thing respecting Discipline, or to interfere with it in the slightest Way.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. WILLIAM WADHAM COPE is called in, and examined as follows: *Mr. W. W. Cope.*

You are Governor of the Gaol of Newgate?
I am.

How long have you held that Office?
Sixteen Months.

Is Newgate a Common Gaol?
A Common Gaol.

It is also a House of Correction?
Not a House of Correction.

Is it for the Commitment generally of Persons before Trial or after?
Before Trial invariably, except Cases that we have; Cases committed from the Court of King's Bench or Common Pleas, and Places of that Kind, we always take in, or by the Commissioners of Bankrupts.

Is it under the Jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen?
The Lord Mayor and Aldermen.

Has the System of enforcing Silence been carried into execution in Newgate?
Not at all.

Are you enabled to classify the Prisoners there?
I do, in the best Way I can.

Is it easy to do so, from the crowded State?
No.

You have now Twelve Sessions, instead of Eight, as you formerly had?
Yes.

Do you think that this Arrangement has been of advantage to you in enabling you better to classify the Prisoners?
I do not think it is, because our Number increases, taking them from the different Counties; we take them from Essex, Kent, and Surrey.

Are you in a more crowded State than before?
It makes the Number pretty nearly equal.

Do you not conceive you have more Prisoners in Newgate now than you ought to have?
I do not.

Do you think you can classify them in a proper Way?
I do not think we could, as the Gaol is constructed.

Mr. W.W. Cope.

Not if there were fewer Prisoners?
No.

How many sleep in a Cell?
Upon an Average, Twenty to Thirty.

In the same Cell?
In the same Room.

Have you Day-rooms?
Day and Night Rooms.

Are they the same?
Always in the same Room in the Day, and they sleep in it at Night.

Is there always an Officer in these Rooms in the Day-time?
Not always; a Man goes in and out occasionally. We have one Man, and he is a Prisoner; we appoint him as Wardsman, to look after the others.

Do not the Prisoners in that Gaol narrate to each other the Robberies they have been engaged in?
It is very likely that is the Case.

Do you put in the Boys with grown-up Persons?
No. We have a School for all under Fifteen Years of Age; there they are taught to read and write.

How long are they kept in your Gaol?
A very short Period.

Do you think a great many of the Persons who leave Newgate leave it worse than when they came in?
I do not think they do.

Do you think they are not contaminated by the Associates with whom they are confined?
That I cannot say; it is very probable they may; it is impossible, when there are Twenty or Thirty in the Ward, to know what is going on.

It would be impossible for you to enforce Silence in the present State of the Building?
I think so; and we have them there so short a Time; many of them are not there a Week before the Trial, and the Moment they are tried the next Morning we send them to the House of Correction; except those who are ordered for Transportation; we get the Order to send them away from the Secretary of State seldom within a Fortnight or Three Weeks.

After they are sentenced are they placed in another Ward?
All the Transports are put in a Ward together.

You have a Chaplain?
Yes.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to Newgate?
He gives up that which is generally required by the Magistrates; he is not the whole of his Time there every Day; he reads Prayers every Morning, and goes through the different Wards to visit.

He has other Clerical Duties to perform?
I am not aware of it.

What are his Hours of Attendance?
Prayers are always read at a Quarter before Ten in the Morning, which takes Three Quarters of an Hour; he immediately visits the Wards, and goes to the School, and gives up Half an Hour or an Hour in instructing Children.

How many Hours does he remain in the Gaol?
Not more than from an Hour and a Half to Two Hours.

Who is at present the Chaplain?
Mr. Cotton.

Are the Persons previous to Trial permitted to receive any thing from their Friends from without the Gaol?
In the way of Food they have not, latterly; Alterations have been made within the last Two Months.

They

They are now not allowed?
They are not.

Do you think that a good Plan?
I think it is; it was done under my Suggestion, and the Committee have allowed them some extra Provisions.

Do your Turnkeys reside in the Gaol?
Only the Principals; Three Principals reside in the Gaol and Two Matrons.

Do those principal Turnkeys board within the Gaol or without?
Board within the Gaol.

The inferior Turnkeys do not reside within the Gaol?
Certainly not.

Do you think it would be advisable that all the Officers of the Prisons should reside within the Gaol?
I do not think it is requisite.

Do you find that the same Persons are frequently committed to Newgate?
We do, very often.

Do you find that the Case with Boys of tender Age?
With Boys particularly. We have had some with us, Boys, not Fourteen Years of Age, Six, Seven, or Eight Times; not exactly with me, but they have been in the House of Correction, and at my Place.

After a Boy of Twelve Years of Age is committed and punished Ten or Twelve Times, do you think it is very likely he will be reformed in this Country?
I should think not.

What is the Rate of Allowance the Prisoners are allowed before Trial under the new Regulations?
We have only made the Alteration of One Pound of Potatoes to each a Week.

Is that since the Michaelmas Sessions?
No; it is since the Alteration of not allowing Provisions to come in.

Is that the Return made to the Secretary of State at the last Michaelmas Sessions according to the Gaol Act? (*Return handed to the Witness.*)
Yes.

Has there been any Change of Diet from that Time to this?
Nothing, except One Pound of Potatoes.

Which is given to all?
Yes.

Before Trial?
And those that remain for Transportation.

You have no Persons remaining with you but those for Transportation, and they generally remain about a Week?
Not more than that; the Moment I get an Order from the Secretary of State I remove them within a Day or Two.

Are you obliged to punish much under the Gaol Act?
Very little. I do not think since I have been there I have had above Six or Seven the whole Sixteen Months.

They are allowed to see their Relations and Friends whenever they think fit, before Trial?
At certain Times we find it is inconvenient, from the Number that come; the Gaol Committee limit it to Three Days.

Do they allow them to see them alone?
Yes; they come and speak to them.

Are the Friends of Transports permitted to see them during the Week after Conviction?
Only once; they can come in on the Tuesday; that is the only Day.

Mr. W. W. Cope.

Is there an increased Allowance given to a Man when he is sentenced to Transportation?

Not at all; there is no increased Allowance except it is ordered by the Surgeon; if a Person is sick, it rests with him to order what he pleases.

How many Assistants have you during the Day-time?

Fourteen Turnkeys and Two Matrons.

Does Mrs. Fry ever visit Newgate now?

Every Friday.

Does it seem to give Comfort to the Women when she comes to visit them?

I think it has done a great deal of Good, particularly among the Females. I am very happy to see the Report made of Sixty-five Women I took on board the Mary a few Days since. Mr. Capper told me their Conduct was much better than any of the others. A great deal of Pains was taken with them.

Have you as many young Offenders among Females as Males?

No, not so many.

Do they return as frequently?

I think not; certainly not.

It is the Practice of late Years for Thieves to employ Boys to assist them, and bring them up to thieving?

It is not only Thieves, but their Parents very often.

Do you employ a Prisoner as Schoolmaster for the Boys under Fifteen Years of Age?

Yes.

Are the Boys under Fifteen untried placed with the Boys under Sentence?

Yes.

How many Prisoners have you in Newgate who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?

Seven Men and One Woman.

How long have they been in your Custody?

William Clarke, 10th January 1831; Anthony Nyland, 6th March 1832; Noah Pease Folger, 6th March 1833; Frederick Seyffert, 13th July 1833; Abraham Dessan, 11th October 1834; Joseph Springay, 16th October 1834; Ann Clark, 9th January 1835; Henry Smith, 3d March 1835.

Have any of them been returned to you from a Lunatic Asylum in consequence of the Medical Men stating them not to be insane?

Two; Anthony Nyland and Noah Pease Folger, from the Asylum at Hanwell.

Do you not think that these Persons interfere much with the Discipline of your Prison?

They do very much.

Would it not be advisable that they should be removed from your Gaol?

Certainly.

Have not some of theWomen who have been sent to the Ships for conveying Convicts to Australia been sent back to Newgate?

Yes.

For what Reason?

Ill-health, Ruptures, bad Legs, old Age, and those who have no Teeth are invariably returned.

Is it not very inconvenient to you to keep these Women in Newgate?

Very much so.

Do the Prisoners under Sentence receive any Provisions or Beer from their Friends?

No.

Are the Prisoners before Trial permitted to smoke?

Yes.

Are

Mr. W. W. Cope.

Are they after Trial?
Yes.

Have the Prisoners in Newgate Bedsteads?
Only the Wardsmen.

What Bedding is allowed to them?
One Mat, Two Rugs in Summer, and Three Rugs in Winter.

Do the Wardsmen let out to the Prisoners any Bedding?
In One Ward in the Chapel Yard they do; the Wardsman provides a Mattress, Tea Kettles, Plates, and other Articles, for which the Prisoners pay 2*s.* 6*d.* per Week. This is quite optional.

Do the Wardsmem sell to the Prisoners any Beer, Tobacco, or Provisions?
No.

Does the Surgeon visit Newgate every Day?
Yes.

Is there any Employment for the Prisoners in Newgate?
Not any.

Do you not send many Boys to a Convict Hulk?
A great Number.

Have you any Reason to believe that certain improper Practices take place between Prisoners in Newgate?
I am not aware of any since I have been Keeper.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Lieut. A. F. Tracey, R. N.

Lieutenant AUGUSTUS F. TRACEY, R. N., called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Governor of Westminster Bridewell?
I am.

How long have you held that Office?
Six Months.

That is, since the Gaol has been opened?
About Three Months after it was opened.

It is a County Gaol?
It is a Common Gaol and House of Correction for the City and Liberties of Westminster.

You have many Persons committed to your Prison as Vagrants?
Many, very many.

You are never in the habit of placing these Vagrants in the same Yards or the same Cells with Persons who have been committed for Trial, or who were under their Sentences?
On no Occasion whatever.

You have now in one of those Yards an Italian Boy, Two blind Men, and Three or Four old Men, have you not?
Yes, I have, at this Moment.

Who have been committed for Begging?
Yes; Vagrancy or Begging.

You employ them in picking Oakum?
Yes; they are committed for hard Labour.

You have also a great many disorderly Women, committed as disorderly Women?
Yes, a great many.

For short Periods?
Frequently Seven Days only.

Are you in the habit of seeing the same Persons come back again?
Constantly; disorderly Women more particularly.

Lieut. A. F. Tracey, R.N.

In your Opinion, therefore, the Discipline of the Prison, as far as relates to disorderly Women, has not the Effect of reforming them?
Certainly not; at least I should so judge from my Experience.

You have also a great many Boys committed to your Prison before Trial?
Many.

Do you see the same Faces come over and over again in the Time you have been there?
Very frequently.

There were Four Boys committed one Day last Week?
Yes.

All of tender Age?
Under Sixteen, certainly.

One of them had been committed twice before to your Prison?
If I said Six Times, I should not, I think, be advancing too much, although, possibly, on Re-examination he might be discharged.

Is Silence enacted in your Prison?
Strictly, I trust, and with Effect among the Males.

Do you think that is a beneficial System?
I think it is the only real Punishment within its Walls, and from my Observation unquestionably adapted to ensure the Irksomeness of Imprisonment.

It also protects Persons from being contaminated?
Yes, I think it would, most effectually.

You have a Chaplain to the Gaol?
Yes.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to it?
A very considerable Part of it, certainly.

In your Gaol also you have Debtors for Debts under Forty Shillings?
Yes.

You keep those separate from the other Prisoners?
Perfectly.

From any other Prisoner in the Gaol?
Yes.

Do you find that at any particular Time of the Year you have more Prisoners for Debts under Forty Shillings than at another?
I am scarcely prepared, from Observation, to answer that Question satisfactorily; or I might, perhaps, correct what I have stated, in adding, that about Christmas there are various Charities, Bequests, and small Donations by Persons deceased, for the Benefit and Relief of poor Prisoners. The Plaintiffs are quite aware of the Existence of these Charities and Bequests, and so I account for this periodical Incarceration of this Class of Prisoners, who are in expectation of getting something towards the Debt. In addition to that, the Debtor himself is quite alive to the Thing, for I am prepared to show, from Reference to the Prison Records, that the same Debtor has returned to take the Benefit again of such Relief. They are of trifling Amount; Twenty Shillings to be given in Bread to such as appear most deserving, and the total Amount to be so expended is Four or Five Pounds; and from the Observations of the Officers of the old Tothill Fields Prison the Identity of Prisoners on more than One Occasion has been discovered, and who have been Two or Three successive Years so benefited.

Is there no Power of selecting Objects to be benefited by that Charity?
There is no Regulation as to the Object to be so relieved; I endeavour to select the most deserving. Debtors can make Application to the Thatched House Society, but they must apply to Two respectable Housekeepers before the Prayer of their Petition can be heard, for Character, &c. Again, if the Debt is for a Public House Score, it is never recognized, nor any Relief given; if for Rent, Board, or Tally Bills, it is to that Class the Boon is given.

Are not a great many sent to Gaol in consequence of the Tally System?
I should say Four out of Eight.

87

Is it not one of the most fraudulent and nefarious Systems now existing?

Lieut. A. F. Tracey, R. N.

It is most certainly a grievous Evil, and I consider that of the Two Parties the Debtor is by far the least deserving Punishment. I think it has become a perfect System among them; there is a Sort of Freemasonry between these Parties; they are generally about the same Grade in Society; they look to a Portion of the Debt being given, and regard not from what Source it comes.

Will you explain the Tally System?

It is an Understanding that out of the weekly Stipend or Wages of a Mechanic, he, as a Matter of Course, is to leave, at One of these iniquitous Houses, a Portion to defray the Expence he is likely to be drawn into. The Tally-keeper allows them to go on; the Wife is tempted to obtain Goods from the Shop of those People as frequently as she likes, for herself and Children, and with an Understanding that a Portion of the unconscious Husband's Wages be clandestinely given to the Parties in small Sums.

Do they not in some Instances,—supposing they want a Blanket which is worth Twenty Shillings, will they not consent to be put on the Tally to receive so much a Week, and the Persons charge them Double the Price they ought to charge?

No Doubt of it; it is that Part I particularly allude to. They are Pawn Shops in Miniature; it is done with Blankets and other Articles of Property Double the Amount in Value; and the poor Mechanic or Tradesman, being out of Money, and in immediate Want for a starving Family, feels it indispensable; he is called on by the hungry Feelings of his Children to deposit his Bed or Blanket, and with increasing Expences thereon. I have learnt from these Persons that they have come to Prison and left their Family without Bed or Blankets, accounting for it in that Way, and indulging a Hope that some Charity will relieve them. I speak from Observation, that they seldom or ever possess themselves of either again, or at the original deposited Value.

The County Justices exercise their Authority of permitting the Friends and Acquaintances of Prisoners under Sentence to visit them occasionally in your Prison?

They do.

Do you think that it tends to the Benefit of the Prisoners, and to the Maintenance of good Discipline in the Gaol?

I think it is objectionable in every point of view. I am prepared to confirm that Opinion from some Observations. I make a Point of seeing myself the Orders so given by the Visiting Magistrates to visit Prisoners, and in few Instances do I find that the Name of the Parties desirous to be admitted is a correct one, notwithstanding they make a powerful Appeal to the Magistrates for Permission to see Cousins and so on. The Visiting Magistrate is unprepared to say, "You are not the Person," and he gives an Order. I am satisfied it is productive of more Mischief than could be easily contemplated. I have known Characters of the worst Description, and have been assisted in the Fact by having some good Officers on the Establishment who had been in the Police, and have identified and recognized such Characters,—in a very recent Instance, a noted Smasher or Coiner, who has preferred that Calling for very many Years, perhaps all his Life-time, in the Name of William Ballard, and who has figured in the Public Prints, has come on several Occasions during the Time I have had charge of the Westminster Gaol to see various Juveniles, professing to be a Relation or Friend, and promising to bring this, that, and the other. Having an Officer who had been many Years in the Police, and the Fact of my having placed that Officer as the inner Porter at the Gate, and where he had a greater Chance of seeing Faces, on this Person's last Visit I was about to discharge a Boy, Thomas Wade, who had been Three Months in the Prison, a troublesome Character, though quite an Urchin; a Man came with an Order worded thus: "Permit William Wade to see his Son Thomas Wade;" this William Wade was the noted William Ballard; I had heard that he was in the Prison, and thought probably I could glean something, or turn his Visit to advantage. I removed the Officer from his Post at the Gate, (there are Places in Westminster Gaol termed Visiting Spaces; it is intended the Turnkeys should walk within the Two Railings; the Friends on one Side, and the Prisoners on the other; but from the limited Numbers we cannot on all

Lieut. A. F. Tracey, R. N.

Occasions put an Officer between every Space; we endeavour to do it as nearly as possible;) this Man came as before; believing that this Officer did not know him, he overheard the Conversation of this Man, which lasted Ten Minutes or a Quarter of an Hour, telling him, that if he would return to him he would be a Father to him. This Boy was particularly struck with the Promise of having a new Hat, and he told him the House and Lane where he was to meet, somewhere in the City, near Cheapside, and that he should be at the Gate in the Morning when he was to come out. Soon after this the Bell rang, the Man departed, the Officer came to me and told me all he had overheard. This little Urchin had been often in a Scrape; I thought I would frighten him, and make him tell me all he knew of this Man. He told me this Person's Name was Ballard, confirming the Testimony of the Officer, which was unnecessary, for he had apprehended him on some Occasion. I asked, "How do you know him?" He said, "My Sister kept Company with him" (to use his own Language). I asked, "Were you ever at the Residence of this Man where he lived? He said, "Yes; he kept a Room; it is One of many that he keeps;" and he said, "I have been in the habit of going there to pass bad Sixpences for him." I asked, "Have you done it long?" He said, "Yes, very long." "Do you meet any other Characters there of the same Description?" He said, "Yes, many little Boys of my Acquaintance." I asked him, "Were you paid for this?" He said, "Yes, he fed him, and gave him many Things." I repeated this Question to him: "There were man others with you?" He said, "Yes, many." I said, "Now tell me the Truth; I shall keep you here, and you shall not leave this Prison until you tell me where you are going?" He said, "I am going directly to this Man; my Sister is there, anxious to clothe me; and he is going to give me Work." I mention this as One of many Instances. I found it necessary, after this Exhibition, if I may so term it, to mention to the Magistrates, with great Submission, the Difficulty I might be placed in, from the objectionable Visits of these Persons; and, where we have no Means of identifying, if they would be pleased to give me Authority to destroy any Order, or prevent any questionable Persons coming within the Gates. They said certainly, if I saw an objectionable Person I ought not to admit them; and I have attended to that since. I hold, with great Deference, that the System of visiting is very bad. I have no other Means of punishing a Prisoner in the Common Gaol than by stopping what is termed these Calls or Visits of Friends, many of whom are their sad evil Associates; few, comparatively, that come bring any Provisions, although untried Prisoners are dependant on their Friends, and the Prison Bread, Twenty Ounces per Day, for their Subsistence. They come to have an idle Gossip, the Subject of which is generally their Exploits without the Walls. The convicted Prisoner whose Friends come by Authority I have just stated looks forward with no small Anxiety to the First Monday in the Month (which is the Visiting Day). I have little other Intimidation to hold out to an Offender, for a Breach of Discipline, beyond separate Confinement; and the Consequence of separate Confinement is reducing materially their Provisions, and which is the only Punishment they sincerely feel, coupled with the silent System. Again, to remind them that their Friends on Monday, the Visiting Day, shall not see them, they also appear to feel; and the Fact of their feeling it, I submit, is just the Reason why it should be prevented. And, as I have before observed, the whole Occupation and the whole Time these Visitors are in the Gaol is employed in giving a faithful Detail of Exploits, and their Associates, where they will be employed when they next meet, what is about to be put into operation, and what are their Plans.

Do the Turnkeys in your Prison live out of the Gaol?
A Portion of them.

Do you think that a good Plan?
I object to it in every possible Way; and when I feel sufficiently established in the Management of the Prison (feeling some Delicacy now, being but recently in Office,) I trust to have the Opportunity of submitting to the Visiting Justices this Question for their Sanction, that the Turnkeys should all without Exception live within its Walls. When I say they do not live within its Walls, I should observe that they are there from Morning till Night, with the Exception of Meal Hours, or the Hour of unlocking in the Morning to the

Lieut. A. F. Tracey R. N.

the locking up at Night; but a given Number, perhaps Four or Five Men, by the new System or Regulations, sleep out. My Reasons are, that these Men are not infallible; and I submit, though they are good Men generally, and respectable, yet there is a Probability, in addition to other Objections from their Associations in Life, that they may mix with Characters that are questionable. Perhaps it is unfair to entertain such an Opinion of a Body of Men who certainly are respectable, but I say, from their Habits of Life, it is not impossible that they may mix with the Relations or Friends of Prisoners. The Prisoners are fully alive to the Fact, and well aware of the Hour and Period at which the Turnkeys leave the Prisons; not that I think there is any thing to be apprehended on the Score of Tumult or Rising from this Knowledge of their Movements.

Do they all board within the Walls of the Prison?
No; they go out to Dinner; that is the Objection I offer.

In point of fact would it not be cheaper for the County to keep a Table for the Turnkeys within the Gaol, than to give them greater Salaries to enable them to go out for Dinner?
Most certainly, I think so.

Even if Economy alone were looked at?
Our Turnkeys are not paid such high Wages as at the House of Correction at Clerkenwell; but so anxious and eager have I been to establish their living within the Walls, that is, if they formed a Mess among themselves, I have offered to contribute towards it, to ensure their being at their respective Posts. The Period of the Day they must of necessity absent themselves for dining the Prisoners require much Attention—watching; and this Period of the Day unfortunately happens to be the Visiting Hours, at which of all others we should rather double our Numbers than decrease them. I have had more Difficulty during the Time I have had the Management of the Gaol to apportion the Dining Hours of the Turnkeys, to please them, and to satisfy myself, than I could express. The Visiting Hours are from Twelve till Two, Sundays, Good Fridays, and Holidays excepted, and those are the Hours at which naturally a Portion of the Turnkeys wish to dine,—about Mid-day. I have had more Difficulty in that than in any one Thing I can state to you—in planning the proper Times and Seasons for going out; whereas if they would dine together, to which there is no Objection, as they are married Men, they might form a little Mess. I shall at a suitable Opportunity submit it to the Magistrates for an Order.

Under whose Management is your Prison?
The Magistrates for the City and Liberties of Westminster.

Have you Tread-mills in your Prison?
We have Two; they are about to establish a Third to put the Females on, they requiring every Severity and Coercion.

Have you Partitions on the Tread-mill?
We have not.

By your Regulation, and the Place you put your Turnkey, can you enforce Silence on the Tread-mill?
Certainly. I have in addition Two Prisoners (Monitors) continually crossing each other. It is a limited Space, so that I think there is no Possibility of their speaking on the Wheel without being discovered. I do not allow them, if any Visitors or Strangers visit the Yard, to turn to the Right or Left; I punish them for so doing. The Men crossing each other must observe it. Before I came here this Day I saw a Prisoner speaking to another, in consequence of the Absence of one of these Men and whilst the other turned his Back. They are Men I can trust, from the Encouragement given. Increase of Provisions is the Reward they have, and that is regarded very sensibly, and there are few Instances in which they do not at once make a Report.

Do you not think, with respect to separate Confinement, that the Women dislike it very much?
Of all Things. In separate Confinement they are allowed to exercise in the Gallery; but it is one and the same Thing as solitary. They are placed in the

Lieut. A. F. Tracey, R. N.

same Cells, and there is no Difference of Treatment, except in allowing them the Power of exercising, but certainly not of speaking.

Have you abolished the Use of the Day-rooms?
Nearly so.

You think the Day-rooms a bad System?
Yes, unless they could be constructed in such a Way that One or Two could command it; if it were a long narrow Room Two or Three Monitors and One Turnkey could command it.

You think you can trust your Monitors to do their Duty faithfully?
There are Instances of their proving unworthy of their Office, but for an Increase of Provisions it is surprising how much they will do to hold Office, and besides which they are taken from the disagreeable Duty of picking Oakum, &c. There are few Instances in which they do not peach on each other, as they term it.

Which do you find the most useful in keeping up Discipline, the old or the young Prisoners?
The old established Thief is as capable of managing his Companions on the Tread-wheels, and I would as soon trust him, generally speaking, to give Information, as one of the Turnkeys of the Prison; he sees the Necessity, and knows, as well, that he has a good Office or Berth when so selected.
They may be the most effectual for you as Officers, and they may be the worst Characters in the Prison?
Yes; their repeated Visits qualify them for these Offices.

If it was not for the Consideration of Economy, would you prefer the Use of Wardsmen to paid Officers?
Certainly not.

You said that on the Tread-mill you employed Two Wardsmen crossing each other to watch the Persons on the Tread-mill; supposing your Tread-mill is constructed with Compartments as some are, do not you think that One regular Officer would be sufficient to inspect the whole, and secure Silence?
Yes; One Officer, if the Wheels were so constructed, might command the whole; it would almost hide the Person. They must of Necessity make an Effort to get to the Extent of the Separation, which could not fail to be observed.

Did you ever see them at Brixton?
Yes, and considered them incomplete.

How many Assistants have you on the Male Side of the Prison?
I have at this Moment Sixteen Officers.

What is the average Number of Male Prisoners?
About 200 since I have been there. I have not bonâ fide that Number of Officers doing Duty as Turnkeys, though they are all designated so; for instance, out of that Number there is a Cook, a Man attending the Infirmary, an Oakum-master, a Storekeeper, and an Engineer, reducing the Number to Six or Seven; still they are designated Turnkeys, although not employed in the Prison Yards.

The Female Prisoners are attended by Females?
By Female Officers, as the Gaol Act expresses.

What is the Proportion of Officers to Prisoners?
About Four Females to 150 Prisoners.

Are there any very young Girls?
Yes, very many.

Prostitutes?
Yes; Fourteen or Fifteen Years of Age. I have some who I can say with Truth have lived Four Months out of the Six I have been in the Prison. I am satisfied, on the Arrival of the Van in the Evenings, of the Return of particular Faces; they go and return the next Day frequently. Two Days intervening is something extraordinary among some Characters that I could point out.

They

Lieut. A. F. Tracey, R. N.

They always come back?
Yes, positively, or I hear of their having been taken to Coldbath Fields.

Do you believe that the present System of Discipline tends to reform these Women?
I do not; I think it has rather hardened this Class of Prisoners.

Would any Punishment tend to prevent their returning on your Hands?
I think decreasing their Proportion of Provisions, and longer Periods of Imprisonment, would prove useful Lessons to many. My only Criterion and Reason for so thinking is, that when a Prisoner is placed in separate Confinement for a Breach of Discipline—if, for instance, Two Girls are found speaking to each other, I direct them to be locked up. If so locked up (and the Extent of my Power to so punish is for Three Days), the first Day, instead of Twenty Ounces of Bread, they get Eight Ounces and Water; for the next, Twelve Ounces and Water; and on the third, Sixteen Ounces and Water only. They only regard this Confinement from the Fact of being deprived of a Portion of their Provisions; they feel little or nothing for this temporary Separation, their Habits being too idle and abandoned to feel Irksomeness in being deprived of Work; neither do they feel it a Punishment to be placed in their Cells for this Period of Time without Occupation. I have known a Male under the same Restraint ask for Work.

Your solitary Cells are dark?
Yes; they were recently fitted up at some Expence.

Have you any Suggestion to make to the Committee respecting any Alteration in the Gaol Act?
I am not prepared with any Suggestions at this Moment on that Head.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned till To-morrow, Two o'Clock.

Die Sabbati, 11° *Aprilis* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Mr. GEORGE LAVAL CHESTERTON is called in, and examined as follows:

How long have you held the Office of Governor of Coldbath Fields House of Correction?
Nearly Six Years.

The Prison has been altered since you became Governor, has it not?
It has been enlarged.

How many Prisoners are there there at present?
This Morning we unlocked 900 all but Two; 898.

It is the House of Correction for the County of Middlesex?
It is.

Under the Jurisdiction of the Magistrates of the County?
Yes.

You have several Tread-mills, have you not?
We have Thirteen Yards, containing altogether as many as Thirty-six distinct Wheels.

Have you not a great many juvenile Offenders?
A great many.

No Persons are sent to you but those under Sentence?
Very rarely; some few others, where it is desirable to keep Persons specially apart from Communication with those on the same Charge; thus they are sometimes sent to me, but very rarely.

You have lately visited the Wakefield Prison?
I have.

You went down to make yourself acquainted with the System of the Management of that Prison?
I did so.

In your Opinion, is the System which is pursued at Wakefield a good one?
I think it a most excellent one.

The Magistrates of Middlesex have carried into execution that System in the Prison under your Control?
They have, as far as possibly they can; we are now completing our Arrangements.

Silence, therefore, is enacted and enforced, to the best of your Ability?
It is.

Are you of opinion that the enforcing Silence is a good System?
I cannot sufficiently express my Opinion of the excellent Character of the System; I think it is admirable. I do not know any thing which has been suggested for many Years which is likely to be attended with so much public Benefit, since under it further Contamination becomes impossible.

You put the Boys in Coldbath Fields in separate Parts of the Prison, as much as you can?
We do; we separate them according to Class; but I have for some Time been of opinion that it was not particularly desirable to separate the Boys from the

Mr. G. L. Chesterton.

Men, when they had the Means of free Communication. I was satisfied myself that the Boys corrupted one another more than the Men corrupted the Boys.

The same Boys come to you very frequently, do they not?
Very frequently indeed.

Can you say how many Times any of them have been committed?
I have several now in Custody who acknowledge to having been there Six or Seven Times; and it would not be unreasonable to believe that they have been there Ten or Twelve.

Boys under Fifteen or Sixteen Years of Age?
Yes.

The old System of Prison Discipline in Coldbath Fields had not the Effect of reforming a great many of those who were committed?
Decidedly not.

Do you not believe, on the contrary, that many left the Gaol worse than they came into it?
I am quite sure of that.

Are you satisfied that Silence can be fully enforced?
I am satisfied that it can be fully enforced; but it is but recently that I have returned from Wakefield, and we are adapting our Building to the new Arrangement; I am, however, satisfied, that when that is perfected no Deviation from Silence of consequence can take place.

Are you of opinion that the Practice of permitting Prisoners under Sentence to receive Visits from their Friends is a good one for the Discipline of the Prison?
I think it is highly pernicious in most Points of View; it is very rarely, indeed, that it is beneficial.

Have you not seen or heard of Persons belonging to what is called the Swell Mob coming in to visit the Prisoners of the Swell Mob in the Prison?
Repeatedly. I think I could point out to your Lordships, by what occurred on our last Visiting Day, how strongly objectionable the Practice is. A Lad convicted of Felony of the Name of Pike has nearly completed Six Months, the Time for which he was sentenced; his Father is in the habit of writing him the very best Letters, anxious for his Reform; the Boy also feels the Discipline under which he has been, and is in a very good Frame of Mind. The other Day, to my Astonishment, Two notorious Utterers came in with an Order they had procured to see this Boy. As soon as I saw those Men, whom I knew perfectly well, come to see this Boy, I stepped forward to ascertain the Purpose; they made a trifling Excuse. I said I should not permit it; their Object was, no Doubt, to get the Boy into their Plans; and they came in order to make an Appointment with him, I have no Doubt, than when out they might entrap him into their Objects.

Do you think that Prisoners under Sentence should, except under very special Circumstances, be allowed to receive any thing other than the Gaol Allowance?
Certainly not; in our Prison they never are permitted to receive any thing but the Gaol Allowance, unless it is ordered by the Surgeon.

You are of opinion that the Visiting Justices, or the Governor, should have the Power of permitting Prisoners that are very ill in the Infirmary to receive Visits from their Friends?
Unquestionably; and perhaps not only when they are in the Infirmary, but when they are sinking; when we see they are stricken by Disease.

But the Permission to receive Visits from their Friends should be the Exception, and not the general Rule?
The Exception, undoubtedly.

The Members of their Families?
That is where the Deception is carried on; it is so extremely difficult to know who are the Members of their Families. They go to the Police Offices and

95

Mr. G. L. Chesterton.

and ask for an Order to see their Brother or Father, &c., and the Magistrates have no Means of knowing whether they are so or not.

You do not permit smoking in the Prison?
We permit no Indulgence of any Sort whatever; nothing in the Shape of Amusement, except useful Reading.

How many Turnkeys and Officers have you?
At this Moment we have, Males and Females, Seven and forty, including those assisting the Clerk, the Cooks, the Engineer, Watchmen, &c.; they are all denominated Turnkeys in our Establishment.

Those are not Prisoners?
They are not.

Do any of those Persons reside out of the House of Correction?
The greater Part of them, in fact I may say all, with the Exception of the Chief Turnkey, the Gatekeeper, and the Storekeeper.

Do they board out of the Prison, or within the Walls?
They board out of the Prison.

Is it your Opinion that it would be desirable that the Turnkeys should reside within the Prison?
It would be desirable, if it were practicable, for they would be always at hand to render Service in any Emergency,

Are you of opinion it is a good Plan to permit the Turnkeys to board out of the Prison?
I think it would be very preferable that they should board within.

Would it not be an economical Arrangement to have a Table for the Turnkeys within the Prison, deducting something from their Salaries?
Yes.

In point of Efficiency you think it would be desirable?
Yes.

In endeavouring to maintain Silence you employ Monitors?
Yes.

The Monitors are selected from among the Prisoners for good Conduct within the Prison?
Yes.

Have you had any Reason since you have adopted that Course to suspect the Monitors of Partiality?
They are so very strictly watched, that they are compelled to be impartial. Whenever we find a Monitor in fault he is immediately discharged from his Situation; and he is so narrowly watched, at uncertain Intervals, that he must do his Duty. If there is any Charge of Partiality against a Monitor, I inquire into it.

Then in fact Part of the Duty of the Turnkeys is as much to watch the Conduct of the Monitors in the Performance of their Duty as the other Prisoners?
Certainly.

It has never come to your Knowledge that some of those Monitors have neglected their Duty, or shown Partiality in the Performance of it?
Yes, it has come to my Knowledge that they have neglected their Duty, and have attempted to show Partiality, but in such Instances they have been instantly dismissed; and I find that the Dismissal of those immediately they were reported had a very good Effect.

How long has the System of Silence been in practice in your Prison?
For upwards of Four Years we have ordered the Prisoners to work in silence, and have made them as silent as we could, with the Knowledge we then had; but it is only since Christmas we have adopted it to the full Extent.

Is it under the present improved System you hold out the Prospect of Success?
Certainly; not under the other. The only Improvement I could suggest would

Mr. C. L. Chesterton.

would be the entire Separation of Prisoners. I have seen the Gaol at Glasgow where entire Separation is the Order, and it is so superior to any thing else that entire Separation is the only Improvement I could suggest; but the Expense of building would be so great that it might be in many Places entirely impracticable.

When did you visit the Glasgow Prison?
In December last. On leaving Wakefield I was ordered to go to Glasgow; I went there, and saw the whole System there.

Is that at all similar to the one at Wakefield?
No; in Wakefield they work as in our Prison, in Bodies; at Glasgow they work in separate Cells; and if any are put together for Want of sufficient Room they put Two or more of the worst Characters, thinking that, although it diminishes Punishment to the worst, that is the least Evil, since the best Characters are not contaminated by evil Communication.

In regard to Orders of Admission for Visitors to your Prison, how are they procured?
There are Days set apart for visiting the respective Classes; the first Monday in the Month for Felons, the first Tuesday for Misdemeanors, the first Wednesday for Rogues and Vagabonds, and the first Friday for Females. The Application is made to the Police Office from which the Parties were originally committed for Trial, and the Orders are given almost as a Matter of Course on those Days.

Every Visiting Magistate of a Prison has the Power of giving an Order to any Individual to visit the Prisoners?
Yes, and not only the Visiting Magistrates but any Magistrate of the County.

And for any Day?
Yes.

But for the sake of Regularity they give them for those specific Days at the Police Offices?
Yes; those Days being fixed as Visiting Days by the Court.

You find that in fact the Magistrates of the County are in the habit of so doing?
They are, but rarely, except on the Visiting Days. The Crowd (the Majority being Thieves and Prostitutes) is so great sometimes on the Visiting Days that we can scarcely have Ingress and Egress, and I have been obliged to station Officers outside to keep the Way; indeed I have been obliged to send for the Police.

The Soldiers of the Guards are occasionally sent to your Prison?
They are, by Sentence of Courts-martial.

Have you any Knowledge of the Effect which the Discipline of your Prison has produced on them?
The Adjutant of the Coldstream Guards informed me it was impossible to state the beneficial Effect the Discipline of our Prison had had upon their Men.

That is the new System?
Yes; our Discipline for some Time has been considered very strict.

How long has the Practice of sending Soldiers to your Gaol been in existence?
As long as I have been Governor; but to a much greater Extent lately.

Have any of the Soldiers of the Guards been re-committed since the new System of Silence has been established?
There is One Instance of it.

What is the greatest Number of Soldiers you have had at one Time?
I hardly recollect; but I do not think I have ever known more than Twenty there at a Time.

Have you a School in the Prison?
We have.

The

Mr. G. L. Chesterton.

The Provisions of the Gaol Act are carried into execution in the Prison in Coldbath Fields as regards Classification?
Yes, they are.

You mentioned to one of the Committee who visited the Gaol the other Day, that you had seen a Communication of Mr. Brebner, the Keeper of the Glasgow Bridewell, showing the Effect of longer and shorter Periods of Confinement?
I have.

Is that the Communication?
It is.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

RE-COMMITMENTS.

As this is perhaps the most important Feature in the whole Business, I felt it my Duty to obtain from the intelligent Governor all the Information he could communicate, and the following is a View of the Result.

Of Prisoners sent in the first Time for 14 Days about 75 per Cent. returned.

30	—	60	—
40	—	50	—
60	—	40	—
3	Months	25	—
6	—	10	—
9	—	7½	—
12	—	4	—
18	—	1	—
24	—	None.	

Mr. Brebner gave the most decisive Proof as to those committed for Two Years; during the Seventeen Years he has acted he had 93 Commitments for that Period, and he said, "I never knew one of them return; not an Instance." The Facts contained in this Table speak Volumes as to juvenile Offenders, to whom it chiefly refers; they show that for short Sentences Bridewell is not the proper Receptacle or the proper Punishment; that such a Period of Confinement becomes only a Training for the Endurance of longer Continuance; that the Delinquents thus become reconciled and habituated to the System; that during their Residence they only think of the fresh Depredations they may soon be able to commit; in short, that they go out without Remorse or Reform, and return without Fear or Shame. I beg I may not be misunderstood. I am quite aware of the difficult Situation in which the Magistracy are placed; that they cannot allow Delinquency to escape; that they must inflict some Punishment for slight Offences; that they know none easier than Commitment to Bridewell; and they will naturally ask, "What other do you propose?" With every Allowance, I am not sure, if I have succeeded in proving the Disease, that it is incumbent on me to provide the Remedy; but before I close I may venture to suggest my humble Ideas. If, however, my Facts be correct and my Premises right, I am entitled, without going One Step further, to conclude that the existing System is bad; that it tends to aggravate the Evil it was intended to remove; and that the whole Secret of Re-commitments is developed as proceeding, not from any Fault in the Bridewell System, as has been from Ignorance alleged, but from the Manner in which the Commitments are administered; not from any Want of Virtue in the Medicine, but from its having been given in too slight a Dose. I know that the Police Magistrates can only commit for 60 Days; but if ever this Sentence should be inflicted for aggravated Offences with the View of saving the Expense of Prosecution before a higher Tribunal, I am afraid that present Economy will be found to be ultimate Loss both to the Offender and the Public.

Have you any Observation to make with respect to the Length of Imprisonment?
We find it extremely pernicious to the Health of the Prisoners. Whether it is from the Habits of the London Thieves I cannot say, but they break down amazingly under long Commitments. I find in Glasgow they maintain their Health in the Bridewell, which I attribute to the Occupation they are subject to, for they weave and spin; and when they do that with Looms the Work requires continued Attention, and the Mind does not suffer from Depression. The Prisoner is not constantly bewailing his Situation.

You are an Advocate for short Terms and strict Discipline?
I am. In our House of Correction the Sentence of Three Months is a very severe Sentence; I think the Sentence of Six Months doubly severe; I think the Sentence of Two Years a terrible Sentence indeed. We find we are obliged to relax the Rule with respect to this long Term; the Surgeon is

Mr. G. L. Chesterton.

obliged, in order to save their Lives. to give them considerable Indulgence, and we are compelled to remove them from the Tread-wheel, and to keep up their Spirits by giving them petty Situations, and even when they misconduct themselves, as they oftentimes do, still, as they fall off in Health so much, we have scarcely a Discretion.

Therefore, in point of fact, they go out of the Gaol with the Terror of the Discipline in a Degree worn off?
Yes.

Do you employ Women on the Tread-mill?
Yes.

Have you known any Instances of Injury to any Female in consequence of it?
None from the Labour of the Wheel.

Have you, on the other hand, had Reason to believe that it improved their bodily Health?
Decidedly so.

You have a great many of the worst Characters of the Metropolis sent to you?
A great many indeed.

Have you been able to enact Silence with respect to the Females?
We have during the Day. We place Monitors in the Rooms during the Night, and the Monitors report that it is effected then; but all the better Order of Females that we fear may be corrupted we put into separate Cells.

Do you not think that the better disposed Prisoner would prefer Silence to being obliged to hear a great deal of the Conversation of Persons more abandoned than themselves?
Unquestionably. The Conversation of those Persons, or at least of Two Thirds of them, in our Prison, used to be the most disgusting and revolting in general that can possibly be imagined; and in several Instances I have known of Robberies being concocted in Prison; indeed, on various Occasions I have thought it my Duty, when such Matters have come to my Knowledge, to warn Parties out of Doors against Depredations concerted within these Walls. Happily, under the silent System, such Things are now impracticable.

Have you been obliged to punish for the Infraction of the Rule of Silence?
Yes, I have been obliged to punish; I find on Calculation within the last Three Months, the Punishments of all Kinds for Neglect of Work and Breach of Silence, and for other Offences, have been about Twenty daily out of the average Number of 900 Prisoners.

What has been the Sort of Punishment you have inflicted?
I have stopped from Offenders One Third of their Allowance of Bread, or in some Cases their Gruel, or have put them into solitary Confinement. If they are found speaking once they are ordered an extra Turn on the Tread-mill; if they speak a second Time they are deprived of One Third of their Bread or their Allowance of Gruel; for a third Offence they are shut up in solitary Cells for the Day; and if there is a refractory Spirit shown, or Insolence or threatening Language used to the Officers or Monitors, they are confined for Two or Three Days, as the Case may be.

You would recommend Silence as the best Means of reforming the Prisoners?
Unquestionably.

Are you not of opinion that a great many of the juvenile Offenders cannot be reformed by Prison Discipline?
Your Lordships may depend upon it, it is almost impracticable to reform them. There is no Fact of which I am more satisfied than that where they have once embraced Theft as a Craft it is entirely hopeless; there is nothing but separating them from their Associates, and debarring them from their usual Haunts, that can save them.

The Temptations are too strong when they come out of Gaol?
Yes; they cannot resist them.

Therefore

99

Mr. G. L. Chesterton.

Therefore you would be of opinion that if any Plan could be adopted by which juvenile Offenders, after they have been convicted a certain Number of Times, should be sent out of the Country, it would be of Service to them and of Advantage to the Country?

I think it would be most desirable.

Do your Observations apply to the Girls committed as well as to the Boys?

Equally, if not more so; but with respect to a numerous Class of Women I should be sorry to recommend their being sent to the Colonies, for when once they have acquired the Habit of Drunkenness, if they are sent to any Place where Drink can be got they will be a Curse to the Place to which they are sent. I think it would be a Matter of Consideration for the Legislature, whether, as soon as they are found to have become drunken Prostitutes, it would not be better to shut them up for Seven Years at once, and keep them to some useful Labour away from Drink. On the present System they leave Prison for a few Days and then come back again. There are a great Number of Women in my Prison and in other Prisons who I will venture to assert have been in the Course of Years Two and Three hundred Times committed. There is no Punishment you can hold out to those Women that would be effectual to deter them from Drink. It is not that they do not dread the Punishment; on the contrary, in their sober Moments they wring their Hands, and express themselves strongly and feelingly on their unhappy Lot; but they cannot resist the Temptation when once the Habit is confirmed; and I consider that it would be an Act of real Humanity towards them, and certainly a great Relief to the Public, to place them beyond the Reach of the degrading and mischievous Lives they lead, without the remotest Prospect of Amendment.

Is there any other Suggestion you can make to the Committee?

I would beg to suggest to the Committee that the present Mode of Classification is a very objectionable one. We are obliged to classify according to the Crime. If the Prisoner is convicted of Felony, and goes out, and is subsequently convicted of Misdemeanor, he comes in again, and must be put in the Misdemeanor Class, with Persons, perhaps, who have never committed an Offence before. A Person may be committed to Prison Twenty Times, and have been in the Place allotted to Rogues and Vagabonds; but, notwithstanding, if he is afterwards convicted of Felony or Misdemeanor, he must instantly be shifted to either of those Classes. I think the Classification ought to be discretionary with the Magistrates; but if the System of Silence is kept up there is no Necessity for Classification at all. We should be always desirous, where we have the Discretion, to put the more respectable together; and with Silence there could be no Contamination from the Intermixture. When Boys are committed to Prison, where they are committed summarily, I think it would be very desirable that the Magistrate should have the Power of ordering a certain Number of Stripes on the Back. The Boys would dread that infinitely more than the mere Imprisonment. I do not speak as to Men, but Boys.

As to Boys under Fourteen, you would think that the Sort of Whipping they would get at School would be better for them than long Imprisonment?

Yes. I am not an Advocate for severe Flogging; One Dozen with the Cat would, I am sure, operate as a salutary Dread on their Minds. There is another Class of Prisoners respecting whom I feel strongly: they are Prisoners committed for unnatural Offences; that is the only Exception I would make to the Rule of not flogging Men. They are now merely committed for Imprisonment, with or without hard Labour. We are obliged to keep them separate, and we do so; but the History of these Men is so disgusting that I think they are very fit Objects for corporal Punishment, and if they were the only adult Persons subject to it I think that would mark their Offence the more distinctly.

Have you now many Prisoners of that Description?

I have now Twelve. I have had upwards of Twenty at One Time, and have had some who had been convicted before.

When you propose corporal Punishment, you think it should be in the Presence of the Prisoners in the Gaol?

If not in the Presence of all the Prisoners, certainly of the Prisoners of that

W. G. F. Chesterton.

Class; for it would be known out of Doors that the Court had the Power of inflicting Whipping, and then a shorter Imprisonment might suffice. Instead of Two Years, perhaps Three or Six Months, with Three Whippings.

Is there any other Suggestion you would make?

I have observed, in the House of Correction, the Punishment the Prisoners most dread for outrageous Offences committed in the Prison is a Prolongation of their Imprisonment. I think it would be very desirable that the Visiting Magistrates should have the Power to sentence them to increased Imprisonment in gross Cases.

To what is it now limited?

Under the 42d Section of the Gaol Act the Visiting Justices have the Power to inquire upon Oath, and to sentence to Whipping or to close Confinement for a Period not exceeding One Month; and if a Person were going out To-morrow, and he were brought before the Magistrates To-day, they might sentence him to a Month's Imprisonment, but it is not thoroughly understood among the Prisoners. I have observed, with outrageous Women, or Persons who have been very refractory, (and there will be daring and hardened Individuals under any System,) that it operates as the most effectual Check of any thing I have been able to perceive.

When you think it would be desirable to give the Magistrates the Power of prolonging Punishment, do you think it would be desirable to enable them to shorten the Punishment?

I think it would; there are some Instances in which that might be very usefully done; but there is a great Indisposition on the Part of Magistrates to interfere with a Sentence when it has once passed, and also to punish severely where it can be avoided, so that I do not think either Provision would be abused. There is another Class of Persons of whom I think very badly, and who, I understand, are very much extending. I mean the Class of Utterers; they dread a lengthened Imprisonment, but with that Prospect before them the Offence cannot be kept under. Indeed, when Persons once enter into that Craft, there is, I fear, very little Hope of them. I think Transportation for the First Offence would be a very desirable Thing, particularly if it is in contemplation to reduce the Terms of Imprisonment.

You have a great Number of Prisoners of that Description now?

A great many.

Have you any Persons in your Custody who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?

There is One who has already been confined Ten Calendar Months, and of whose Release we have at present no Prospect. The Visiting Magistrates have taken considerable Pains to effect his Removal, and have repeatedly communicated with the Home Office on the Subject. The Secretary of State has expressed his Readiness to order his Admission into any Asylum where he would be received; but there lies the Difficulty. The County Asylum at Hanwell is quite full, and moreover the Authorities there are averse to receive Persons confined for Criminal Offences, lest they should escape. Bethlehem and other Places have been named, but objected to; and the Magistrates cannot suggest any Place where the Insane Man would be received.

Is it not prejudicial to those Persons as well as to the Discipline of the Prison that they should remain in the House of Correction?

Most assuredly prejudicial to both. The Persons so afflicted are without the peculiar Medical Treatment suited to their Condition; and the Establishment is very much distressed and inconvenienced by their Custody.

Have you any Prisoners under Sentence who have been reported by the Surgeon of Coldbath Fields to be insane?

There are so many Persons committed here from Time to Time who are insane or imbecile that the Surgeon is not in the habit of specially reporting their Cases, unless they are dangerous or intractable Lunatics. There are at present Five Prisoners whom we regard as of unsound Mind, and control as we best can; never, however, suffering greater Restraint to be imposed upon them than is necessary for their own Safety and that of others. There is some Difficulty in discovering who are thus afflicted and who are Impostors, for the

 Cunning,

101

Mr. G. L. Chesterton.

Cunning, in order to escape from Work, oftentimes feign to be labouring under Aberration of Mind. We have frequently had Insane Prisoners of both Sexes who have been outrageous and unmanageable, and have greatly disturbed the Peace and good Order of the Prison; on such Occasions we have been compelled to relieve other Prisoners from their Labour expressly to watch over them, Day and Night; and the Visiting Magistrates have adopted the Provision of the Act of Parliament 9 Geo. 4. cap. 40. sec. 55., and caused them to be removed to Asylums. That Process, however, is necessarily tardy, and leaves us for a long Time exposed to the serious Evils which I have pointed out; and at present even that Resource, from the Reasons before detailed, appears to be denied to us.

In your Opinion should they be retained in a Prison or be removed to an Asylum?

They should certainly be removed to an Asylum; and some Provision seems to be necessary specially for this Class of Persons, for at present we have no Alternative but to discharge them at the End of their Terms, unless they are dangerous or absolutely incapable of shaping their own Course; and in these Cases we now endeavour to deliver them up to the Officers of the Parish in which they were apprehended.

You have now in your Custody some Women who have been repeatedly committed; will you state how often the Ten longest have been in Coldbath Fields and in other Prisons?

There is one Woman now in the Prison who admits that she has been committed to this and other Prisons 107 Times; and from Calculation we deem this Statement to be rather under than over-rated. There are besides the following Number, with the Number of Times committed —

3	exceeding	60	Times;
1	—	50	
3	—	40	
2	—	30	

and a considerable Number who have been from Ten to Twenty Times committed. For drunken and disorderly Conduct they have very frequently been committed for Seven or Fourteen Days, which will account for the great Number of Times. There is One Woman not now in the Prison, but still alive, and from Time to Time committed, who must, the Matron affirms, have been imprisoned at least 250 Times.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mrs. Rebecca Bourhill.

Mrs. REBECCA BOURHILL is called in, and examined as follows:

You are at the Head of the Royal Victoria Asylum?

I am; the Royal Victoria Asylum, or Female Institution belonging to the Children's Friend Society.

The House is at Chiswick?

It is.

Have the goodness to state to the Committee what are the Objects of the Society?

The principal Objects of the Society are to reform criminal Children; to educate and train them, when neglected and destitute, in the Principles of Religion and Morality; and to make them good domestic Servants. For this last Purpose their Work is changed each Week. We appoint the whole of them to different Employments every Monday Morning; we put Two into the largest Bed-room, Two into the Second, and so on. Those Girls who are Chambermaids this Week we make Kitchenmaids the next Week; the next Week we put them into the Laundry, and afterwards they will go to the Dairy; so that they have an Opportunity of learning the different Branches of domestic Work. A great Part of the Morning is employed in domestic Affairs, and all are in School in the Afternoon, except those detained in the Work of the House. We have Fifty-five in the Asylum just now, and have but One Servant. The Children make Clothes for themselves, and wash for themselves.

Mrs. Rebecca Bourhill.

What is the Age of the youngest Child now in the Institution?

Nine, and the eldest Fourteen; besides which we have Two of Twenty and Sixteen, whose Sisters went out to the Cape, and have conducted themselves so well that the Committees here have consented that these Two older Girls should be received, and be sent to their Sisters. They are going out under the Protection of Mr. Phillips, One of the Committee at Graham's Town; they are only waiting until the Time is fixed for sailing. The Ladies Committee, I believe, intend to send out a Party of younger ones at the same Time with them, as there are Ladies going out who will be likely to superintend them during the Voyage.

Are they sent out to the Cape of Good Hope to be employed as Servants there?

Yes, and the Time for sending them is according to the Improvement they make; if they are fit to go out soon, and their Moral Conduct is correct, we send them out soon, but they must first volunteer to go.

Have any of those sent out been found guilty of committing any Offence?

I have not heard of any one having committed an Offence after being with us, but many before. One little Girl came to us in her Punishment Clothes, having been convicted of stealing her Mistress's Trinkets, but I have every Reason to hope she will now go on well. We had a little Girl about a Month ago from Union Hall, who had been guilty of a serious Theft and Drinking.

What was her Age?

Eleven Years old. She is going on remarkably well; she has not committed a single Fault since she came to the Asylum. I talked to her the Night she came, and endeavoured to show the Impropriety of her Conduct; we have kept a Watch over her, and have not discovered a single Impropriety.

Your Practice is to send them out to the Cape?

To the Cape, to Canada, and some Girls were sent by the Society, with Sir James and Lady Stirling, to Swan River, before the Female Asylum was opened. We shipped Fifteen, on the 13th of last December, for the Cape, and One for Canada.

Are they usually selected from the Children of the poorer Class?

Generally, but we have had Exceptions. We had Three Daughters from a Family that formerly kept their Carriage, and were reduced by the improper Conduct of their Father; they turned out remarkably well, and are gone to the Cape.

Are any of them Children who have been brought up ill, and engaged in vicious Habits?

Yes, the Majority are of that Description.

Do you find that your System reforms them?

Yes. We had One Girl from St. Saviour's Workhouse, who was very vicious; she bit a Piece out of One of her Companion's Shoulders just after she came; she was then a very bad Girl, a Thief, and much given to Falsehood. She turned out so particularly well, that I petitioned the Ladies and Gentlemen's Committee to leave her as an Example to the others, but it was thought advisable to send her to the Cape. She was with us Seven Months.

Do you ever take them from the Gaols after they have undergone their Sentences?

We are always ready to receive such, but it is difficult to say how many we have had, because that Fact is not willingly mentioned by them. We have now Four from Tothillfields under those Circumstances, who all give Promise of doing well. I am quite confident that the Mode of Discipline the Ladies have adopted is the best for softening the Heart and doing Good to the Children; that was my System of Discipline before the Victoria Asylum was established. We have no Punishment but solitary Confinement for short Periods and lessening of Food. The frequent Visits and Admonitions of the Ladies have an excellent Effect.

Does it require any Recommendation to obtain Admission for Children to your Asylum?

It requires 12*l.* 10*s.* to place a Child there, or from the Parish 4*s.* a Week, and

Mrs. Rebecca Bourhill.

and Ten Pounds on Embarkation. The 12*l.* 10*s.* includes the Passage Money and Outfit. There is no further Charge when they arrive in the Cape; the Committee there watches over them till Twenty-one Years of Age.

Is there any specific Age at which you send them Abroad?
No. The Committee Abroad prefer them young before their Habits are fully formed; but we have them from the Age of Nine to Fourteen, and do not send any out till we are satisfied that their Conduct is such as will give Satisfaction.

You may send One out immediately after she has been received into your Institution?
No, we never do that; the usual Period they must be in the Institution is Three Months; but we think future Exceptions are possible, provided a Girl comes of excellent Character, and properly qualified, it may be desirable not to pass by the first advantageous Offer for sending her to Service.

Are they sure, upon their Arrival at the Cape, to be provided for?
Yes; we never send One out till the Committee there sends the Number which is wanted; the Numbers are fixed at the Cape or elsewhere. After they are settled in Situations, Members of the Guardian Committees visit them at Times; and if any Mistress or Master does not treat an Apprentice kindly, it is examined into, and they are removed to another Situation.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. Charles Forss.

Mr. CHARLES FORSS is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Second or Agricultural Master of the Children's Friend Society?
I am the Second or Agricultural Master.

Where is your Establishment?
At Hackney Wick.

How many Boys have you in it at present?
One hundred and twenty-four.

What is the Age of the youngest?
About Seven.

What is the Age of the eldest?
Between Fifteen and Sixteen.

When you think them fit, the Committee send them out to the Cape of Good Hope?
Yes; to the Cape and to other Places.

Upon the same Principle that the Females of the Society are sent out?
Yes.

Have you any Boys now in your Charge that have been in Prison?
We have several.

Can you state the Offences which they had committed?
I do not know their Offences; but Two who were sent by the Lord Mayor from the Mansion House had been in Prison before.

Have you reformed any of those that have been sent to you from the Prisons?
Yes, we have, several. We have had several who have been in Newgate, and some in Brixton House of Correction; they have gone out with good Characters.

They have been sent Abroad?
Yes.

What is your System; do you put those Boys that you take from the Gaols with the other Boys?
Yes, altogether. They are classed in Three Classes; they come in in Class B., and if their Conduct is good they rise to Class A.; if their Conduct is bad they sink to Class C., and remain there 'till their Behaviour is better.

Mr. Charles Forss.

Do you whip them if they behave ill?
If they behave ill they remain in Class C. till the End of the Month.

What are your Punishments?
If their Conduct is bad we keep them from Six to Twelve Hours in solitary Confinement.

Do you ever whip them?
No, we never use a Rod.

Do you not fear that those Children that have been in Gaol should contaminate the other Children?
No; we are constantly with them; they have no Opportunity of being by themselves.

How many sleep together in a Room?
They all sleep in One Room. There is a Division in the Room.

Who sleeps in the Room with them?
I sleep in a Part of the Room. They are all under the Care of a Monitor. Each Class is divided into Divisions; there are about Twenty in each Division under a Monitor, and One Boy who is a general Monitor.

Had any of the Boys who came to you from Gaol received any Education?
Yes, some of them; one is just gone out to Canada who had been educated.

Had he received any Education before he came to you?
Yes, he had been some Years at School.

You are prepared to say that the System you follow has had the Effect of reforming those Boys who have been in Gaol?
Decidedly I think it has.

How do they get Admission?
They get Admission by Tickets on the Payment of £12 10*s.*, either paid in Money, or paid in Tickets to the Amount of the Subscription.

Do you find that solitary Confinement has a very powerful Effect?
Yes, very great. Those Boys who have come from Prison have been the worst to reform we have had.

How is the Payment of the £12 10*s.* made for them?
It is collected from Subscribers; the Chaplain of the Gaol at Brixton has sent several.

Do you stop their Supper for any Offence they commit?
They sit at different Tables; and when a Boy has committed an Offence he is sent to the lower Table, and there the Messes are smaller, those being the little Boys; the first Time he does anything he should not, wilfully, he is sent to the lower Table, if he offends again he is sent to the C. Class; there are very few in the C. Class. There are Monitors in the Field as well as in the Rooms.

You teach them to become Agricultural Servants?
Yes; they have Four Hours in the School and Six Hours in the Field.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. John Teague.

Mr. JOHN TEAGUE is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Governor of Giltspur Street Compter?
I am.

How long have you held that Situation?
Since the Year 1804.

When did the City of London pull down the Poultry Compter?
About the Year 1815, I think; I am not exactly aware.

Did not they pull it down because they considered that they had Prisons enough without it?
It was in an unsafe State, and that was the Reason they pulled it down.

Has

Has there been a Prison built instead?
There was a Debtors Prison built instead.

How many Prisoners did you unlock this Morning?
127; that is far below the Number I have been accustomed to have lately.

Have you had more lately in consequence of the Central Court Act of last Year?
We have.

They are removed from other Prisons to you for Trial?
They are committed by the Magistrates; then they go to Newgate, where they are to be tried; then, after Conviction, they are brought to me to undergo certain Punishments at the House of Correction.

The Giltspur Street Compter is under the Jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London?
It is.

It is a Common Gaol?
A Common Gaol for the first Reception of Offenders in the City of London, and also a House of Correction for the City.

Is it not also a Watch-house?
The Compter imports that that is a Prison where the Sheriffs could keep all the Prisoners taken up in the City of London.

You have at present in your Gaol Persons for Trial; you have Persons for Nonpayment of Penalties; you have Persons under Sentences of a Court of Justice, and you have Disorderlies that are taken up by the City Police in the Course of the Night and Day?
Yes.

Therefore your Prison is not only for Persons before Trial, but for Persons under Sentence, and for Persons who have been taken up for being found drunk or disorderly in the Streets, previously to their being taken before a Magistrate?
That is the Case.

Are not Persons sometimes sent to you that the Hospitals will not receive?
We have such frequently.

Why will not they take them?
If they have any cutaneous Disorder the Hospitals will not receive them, and they are sent by the Magistrates to the Compter, there being no other Place, to be taken care of by the Doctor of the Prison.

And to sleep in the Cells of your Prison?
Yes.

Can you, from the present State of your Gaol, make any thing like the Classification required by the Gaol Act?
I cannot.

Are you not obliged to put Persons sent to you for Re-examination in the same Ward with Persons committed for Nonpayment of Penalties?
I am obliged to do it sometimes for Want of Room, and it is so at the present Moment.

How many Prisoners sleep in the same Cell?
Three, and sometimes more, when the Prison is very crowded.

Are there not some Rooms which contain many more?
Some of the Wards contain about Twenty Prisoners.

They have a Sleeping-room at each Side, and the Day-room underneath?
Yes.

In which the whole congregate together?
They do.

Those Persons are under Sentences for all Sorts of Crimes?
For different Crimes.

Mr. John Teague.

Are the Friends of Prisoners under Sentences permitted to visit them?
They are, for One Hour in the Day. One Person may be admitted, but it is very seldom that we have Applications from many of them; but One Person is allowed to be admitted if the Prisoner conducts himself with Order and Propriety.

Is that Person allowed to be in the Prison with the Prisoner, or is there any Bar between the Prisoner and the Visitor?
There is a Bar to prevent the Friend going into the Interior of the Prison.

Is there any Officer present?
There is an Officer on Duty.

He is not always at the Spot?
No.

Are Persons under Sentence permitted to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?
They are.

Are they allowed to smoke?
They are.

Are they allowed to receive Tobacco?
They are.

Gambling is not permitted within the Prison?
It is not.

But it is very difficult for you, in the present State of the Gaol, to prevent the Prisoners from gambling?
At Times they are detected, and they are punished whenever they are found out.

This Morning a Pack of Cards was found in one of the Cells while a Member of the Committee was present?
Yes, and it was immediately ordered to be burned.

What is the Punishment you inflict in case they are found out?
Solitary Confinement.

Spirits are not allowed?
No.

Beer is allowed?
Yes, a certain Quantity.

In point of fact, in the present State of the Building under your Charge, as a Gaol, a House of Correction, and a Watch-house, it is so crowded, and the Prisoners are sent in so continually at all Times of the Day and Night, that it is very difficult, if not quite impossible, for you to carry into execution the Gaol Act?
That is the Fact.

Does the Grand Jury of the City of London visit your Gaol?
They have come, but not often.

They do not do it at every Gaol Delivery?
They do not.

Who are the Visiting Magistrates?
All the Aldermen in the City of London.

Do they frequently visit your Gaol?
Yes, they do; and they have a Gaol Committee every Saturday at Guildhall.

Have you a Chaplain?
We have.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to your Gaol?
No; he attends the Borough Compter also.

Under whose Jurisdiction is that Gaol?
It is under the Jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

Does

107

Mr. John Teague.

Does he visit the Prisoners in their Cells?
He does not; he sends for them into the Office; he comes Twice a Week on his Visiting Days.

Have you Divine Service on the Sunday?
Yes; we have Prayers in the Morning, and Sermon and Prayers in the Afternoon.

Who reads them?
The Chaplain.

You have a Person to read Prayers every Day; have you not?
Yes; they are read every Day by a Person appointed by the Court of Aldermen.

According to the Gaol Act?
Yes.

The Reason this Gentleman does not go into the Cells is that he is very infirm?
It is.

Will it not be very difficult, from the present crowded State of your Gaol, that he should have that Sort of Conference with the Prisoners which would be desirable?
It would be almost impossible, in the crowded State of the Prison, that he should do so, but we can always give him the Committee-room or the Office.

Have you any Vagrants confined in your Prison?
We have had a great many occasionally, but fewer this Winter than ever I knew.

Do you know the Length of the Day-room in the Yard?
It is about Four Feet wide by Twenty-one Feet long.

How many Prisoners in a wet Day are obliged to be in it?
Sometimes Twenty Prisoners; it is merely like a small Passage. It was a Plan of Mr. Howard, to give Warmth to the Cells on each Side of it, round Holes being made in the Top.

Do you not think it is very injurious to the Discipline of the Gaol, that disorderly Persons should be brought there at all Times of the Day and Night?
It is.

In point of fact they are placed there till they are sober enough to be taken before the Magistrates?
They are, the next Day; sometimes on the Monday Morning Fifty or Sixty together.

You are obliged to huddle them together?
Yes; we do the best we can under the Circumstances.

Are they washed?
There is Plenty of Water and Soap, and Towels are allowed.

There are Males and Females?
Yes. The Males and Females are always kept separate.

During Divine Worship on Sunday there is a perfect Separation?
Yes, there is.

Do the Females attend Divine Worship at the same Time as the Males?
They do not attend on the Week Days. Prayers are read every Week Day to the Females by the Matron or One of the Ladies who visit the Prison. On the Sundays they attend the Chapel; then they are enclosed with a Curtain; they are under the Inspection of the Matron and the Chaplain; and my Pew is at the top Part, and I can command a View of all the Males, but not the Females.

Do your Turnkeys reside within the Walls of the Prison?
They do.

Do they board within the Walls?
They do; all the Officers.

Mr. John Teague.

How many have you?
I have Five Turnkeys, a Taskmaster, a Matron, and a Cook; and a Watchman for the Night Duty.

Are there no Superintendents under the Matron?
She appoints Wardswomen.

How many?
Two Wardswomen; One to each Ward.

They are Prisoners?
Yes, they are.

The Matron has no Female Officers under her, but Prisoners appointed as Wardswomen?
No.

How many Female Prisoners have you?
This Day we have not above Fifteen or Sixteen Females; sometimes Twenty, Thirty, or Forty; but they bear a very small Proportion to the Males.

You have no Tread-mill?
No; we have a Hand-mill; we grind Corn, and make the Bread for the Supply of Newgate in our Prison, and we break Flax and dress it, and the Women spin it, and make it into Bed-ticks.

Have you any other Manufactory in the Gaol?
No.

No Tailoring?
One of the Prisoners is employed in mending Clothes.

How is the Washing done?
By the Female Prisoners; it is Part of their Employment.

Is any Portion of the Profit of the Work of the Prisoners in the Gaol given to the Prisoners?
No, only for grinding the Corn; they are allowed 2*d.* a Bushel for grinding the Corn, which averages about 6*d.* a Week to each Individual.

Is he paid at the Time, or is it given to him upon his Liberation?
It is either paid to him immediately, or he may have it when he goes out if he pleases.

Is he at liberty to spend it in the Purchase of Provisions?
Yes; Food or Coffee, or a few Potatoes.

From whom does he purchase these Articles?
One of the Wardsmen may have some to sell among the Prisoners.

The Wardsman is a Prisoner?
Yes.

Are Persons frequently re-committed?
Frequently; very often.

Juvenile Offenders as well as others?
Yes, very frequently.

Have you now in your Custody any Boys termed Smashers?
Yes; and a great many who have been committed before. A Mark is put against their Name of the Number of Times they have been in before, and that is made out annually and sent to the Secretary of State.

Are you enabled to recognize them when they return again?
Among the whole of the Turnkeys they are sure to be recognized; but they will deny it to the very last, when we have said you have been here before.

But you cannot be deceived?
No.

Do they ever deny it by calling Witnesses?
No; but they brave it out as far as they can, till the Court is convinced that we are right in our Observation.

If there was a more severe Punishment in consequence of their having been convicted twice or three Times, do you believe that many of them would bring Witnesses to swear they were not the Persons who had been committed?
They might do it; some of them are so bad they would almost do any thing.

You are not of opinion that the Discipline of your House of Correction is such as to tend to the Reformation of the Prisoners?
I cannot say that it is; and I am afraid that they are mostly so incorrigible that nothing will reform them; that has been my Opinion from the Experience of many Years.

Should you not be of opinion that from the total Absence of Classification in your Prison some go out worse than they were when committed?
That is to be feared.

From associating with more depraved Characters?
Yes.

Are you aware whether the Regulations in your Prison are different from those in any other Gaol in the City of London?
The Borough Compter is similar to my own, but there is a smaller Portion of Prisoners there; they are mostly Prisoners from the Court of Requests, and Night-charges.

Do you take in all Night-charges that are brought to you?
Yes.

How long have the Regulations been in force which now regulate your Prison?
It has been converted into a House of Correction ever since the Year 1815; previous to that it was a Debtors Prison, and also for Night-charges, and those Rules have been in force ever since.

The Regulations were not submitted to the Judges?
No.

Do you think it would be possible in Giltspur Street Compter to enforce Silence?
I think that would be almost impossible, even in Time of Divine Service. The Divine Service has frequently been interrupted by drunken People being brought in, screaming and making a Noise.

What is the Age of the youngest Boy you have ever had committed for what is termed smashing?
About Thirteen or Fourteen.

In the Case of a Boy being committed for that Crime, has it ever happened, to your Recollection, to have had him in your Prison a second Time for that Offence?
I am not aware that we have had them so young again; but they come repeatedly; as often as they are discharged they come in again; perhaps not so young as Thirteen or Fourteen, but very soon after that.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

The Lord in the Chair lays before the Committee a Copy of the Answers and Observations by the Keeper of the House of Correction at Petworth to the Questions circulated by Order of the Committee. The same is inspected. (*Vide* Appendix, p. 58.)

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Monday next, Two o'Clock.

Die Lunæ, 13° *Aprilis* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

WILLIAM WRIGHT is called in, and examined as follows:

What Situation do you hold?
Head Master of the Brenton Juvenile Asylum, Hackney-Wick.

How many Boys are there under your Charge at present?
124 I believe is the Number at present.

Have you anything further to add to the Evidence the Second Master gave on Saturday?
He takes the agricultural Department, and I take the feeding, clothing, educating, and moral training of the Boys.

Have you any Boys under your Charge that have been in Gaol?
Several.

For first or second Offences?
Some for the first, some for the second, and some for a third Offence.

Of what Age is the youngest Boy under your Control?
The youngest I suppose may be about Nine Years of Age.

What is the Age of the oldest?
About Sixteen.

Have you been able to reform any of those Boys that you have received from the Gaols?
There has been the most satisfactory Improvement made in their Habits of Industry and their general Moral Character.

What has become of them?
They have been sent out to the Colonies, and apprenticed.

Have you heard good Characters of them since?
We have heard a very satisfactory Account; so satisfactory, that out of the Number of those sent out by the Society there has been only One Instance of a Boy having been taken before a Magistrate for pilfering.

Was that a Boy whom you received from One of the Gaols in this Country?
I cannot say whether he was from Prison or not.

What Period of Time does that cover?
I believe from 1830, when the Society was established.

Between Four and Five Years?
Yes.

Do you receive into your Asylum Boys in the first instance who have not been in Prison?
Yes.

Do you receive Boys from the Magistrates?
It is about Six Weeks since the Lord Mayor sent Two Boys into the Asylum instead of committing them to Prison. They were Boys of very bad Character; they had been out upon the Town as Thieves Three or Four Years, and were

William Wright.

kept by a Person in the Neighbourhood of Whitechapel for the express Purpose of thieving. One of them absconded a short Time since, and thinking that a Boy of that Character ought not to be again let loose on Society, and knowing at the same Time that he was placed in the Asylum by the Lord Mayor to try an Experiment, I immediately followed him to his old Haunts, where I found such a Scene of Wretchedness as I never witnessed before.

You have no Power to retain them if they wish to leave you?
No. The Boy returned to the Asylum with his Mother the same Evening. Since that Time he has remained with us. The other Boy, who was his Companion, is making the most satisfactory Improvement in general good Conduct.

Do you find that the Boys you have received from the Gaols have any Education?
Not generally; but some of them can read and write.

Have they ever stated to you the Reasons that induced them to commit the Crimes for which they had been convicted?
I make a particular Inquiry into the History of each Boy, in order to learn his previous Mode of Life, and I can generally trace up his Delinquency to the Fault of his Parents or Guardians.

You think that the System which you follow in your Establishment enables you to reform the Boys who come from Gaol?
It certainly does.

You always, however, send them out of the Country afterwards, so that they do not return to their old Haunts?
They are sent out to a Committee of respectable Gentlemen in the Colony, who apprentice them out in such Situations as they appear best adapted for, and they watch over them as their Guardians during their Apprenticeship. Care is taken to point out to the Committee in the Colonies that Boys of rather doubtful Character ought to be placed out of the Way of Temptation as much as possible. By a little Arrangement of this Kind the Boys have done well.

Is yours a public or a private Institution?
A private one, supported by private Subscription.

How many Boys can you take in?
We could accommodate at present about 200.

You have no Control over them except the School Control?
None, except what I have stated.

How many have you sent out to the Cape of Good Hope?
I do not recollect the Number.

Do you recollect when they were first sent to the Cape of Good Hope?
About January 1833; but I cannot say exactly.

Has the Society received any Account of the Boys who were sent out to the Cape of Good Hope?
It has received Accounts, not only from the Committee there, but also private Letters which the Boys have written to their Friends, who have brought them to the Committee.

Have you any Accounts of their Conduct from the Persons to whom they were apprenticed, or with whom they were placed?
We have several Accounts.

What is the Nature of those Accounts?
The Nature of them, considering the Character of the Boys, is generally very satisfactory.

Were those Boys you sent out to the Cape of Good Hope selected indiscriminately from the whole Mass, or taken on account of any particular good Conduct, compared with the rest?
We have a System of Classification in the School. Class A. is a Class of Boys

William Wright.

Boys of the best Character, Class B. the next in point of Character, Class C. are the worst Boys; and the Boys for Embarkation are always selected from Class A.; no Boy is allowed to emigrate until he has risen into Class A. by his good Conduct.

Is there any Demand at present at the Cape of Good Hope for the Services of such Boys as the School contains?

I am not able to give that Information, as that does not belong to my Department.

Will you put in the Rules of your Society?

The Witness delivers in to the Committee a printed Copy of these Rules. (*See* Appendix.)

Do you know any thing about the Girls School? Does that form Part of the same Establishment?

Yes; that is conducted on the same Principles.

Will you state what System you have followed?

We have never introduced flogging; that has been found very prejudicial to the Reformation of the Boys. Whilst we introduce the most firm and rigid Discipline, still at the same Time it is as mild as Circumstances will permit. Solitary Confinement for a few Hours until there is an Appearance of Penitence is the utmost of our Punishment, with a Deduction of Food.

Why do you object to Boys of Eight Years of Age being whipped?

I have tried it nearly Twenty Years, and I have invariably found that whipping is not at all necessary to enforce Discipline. I have scarcely found a Case among the Boys I have had under my Care since I have had the Honour to be in the Service of the Society in which flogging would have been of any Service.

Your Dislike to whipping is not because you think it is degrading?

I think it is degrading, and produces a very bad Effect on the Minds of the Boys.

Do you think that solitary Confinement for a Child of tender Years is advisable?

For a short Time I think it is beneficial, but I always carefully watch the Effect that it produces on the Child. In particular Cases, I look into the Room Two or Three Times in the Course of Half an Hour; and as soon as I find the desired Effect produced on his Mind, I release him, with a suitable Admonition.

Do you put the Child into a dark Room?

Yes.

Do you think it advisable to stop the Food of a growing Child?

I think to the Amount of Two Ounces of Bread from Eight Ounces it would not be injurious.

Can you furnish the Committee with the Scale of Diet?

This is it.

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

Scale of Diet in the Juvenile Asylum of the Children's Friend Society at Hackney-Wick.

Days of the Week.	Bread.	Butter.	Beef or Mutton.	Potatoes.	Salt.	Milk in the Cocoa or Pottage.	Rice or Scotch Barley.	Oatmeal.	Sugar.	Cocoa.	Oatmeal Porridge.	Bacon.	Soup from the Beef.	Table Beer.	Peas Porridge.
Sunday - Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20 boys.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	–	–	8 oz.	1 lb.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 pint.	–	–
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	–	¼d.	–	–	1 oz.	1 oz.	–	–	–	–	–
Monday - Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20 boys.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	2 oz.	–	–	–	–	–	½ lb.	–	1 oz.	–	–	–	–	½ pint.	–
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	–	¼d.	–	–	¾ oz.	¼ oz.	–	–	–	–	–
Tuesday - Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	–	–	8 oz.	1 lb.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 pint.	–	–
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	–	¼d.	–	–	¾ oz.	¼ oz.	–	–	–	–	–
Wednesday Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	2 oz.	–	–	–	–	–	½ lb.	–	1 oz.	–	–	–	–	½ pint.	–
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	–	¼d.	–	–	¾ oz.	¼ oz.	–	–	–	–	–
Thursday - Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	–	–	8 oz.	1 lb.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 pint.	–	–
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	–	¼d.	–	–	¾ oz.	¼ oz.	–	–	–	–	–
Friday - Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	–	–	–	1 lb.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	8 oz.	–	–	–
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	–	¼d.	–	–	¾ oz	¼ oz.	–	–	–	–	–
Saturday - Breakfast	8 oz.	–	–	–	½ oz.	3 pints for 20.	–	2½ oz.	–	–	1 pint.	–	–	–	–
Dinner -	2 oz.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	½ pint.	–	1 pint.
Supper -	8 oz.	½ oz.	–	–	½ oz.	¼d.	–	–	¾ oz.	¼ oz.		–	–	–	–

The whole Cost per Week for the Diet of One Boy is something less than 3*s.* 3*d.*

(Signed) Wm. Wright, Head Master.

William Wright.

Is there any thing else you wish to mention to the Committee?

Nothing more than this, that the general Principles of the System of Education and Moral Training which the Society has adopted is Kindness, so far as is practicable; constant Employment, and the most vigilant Superintendence: We never leave the Boys, Night or Day, to give them an Opportunity of doing wrong; we constantly live among them, watch over them, and treat them with the greatest Kindness, and making them, as far as is practicable, like our own private Family. I apprehend the Success of this Experiment in Education entirely depends on this Mode of Treatment.

How many sleep in One Room?

About Fifty in One Ward. They sleep in Hammocks, each Boy having his own Hammock.

Is there any Superintendence over them at Night?

The Second Master sleeps in an adjoining Room, so that he can command a View of the whole Range of Beds; the Boys are never left Night or Day.

Are they permitted to talk at Night?

We never allow talking in the Dormitory on any Account whatever.

Are they allowed to speak to one another in the Day?

Yes; at their Work they are allowed to have any cheerful Conversation, but not to be boisterous. We are always among them at work as well as at their Play; we never leave them.

How many Hours do they work a Day?

Six Hours in the Field.

Do they cultivate a Garden?

Ten Acres of Land are cultivated as a Market Garden.

Where do you find Sale for the Produce of it?

We use a great Part of it in the Asylum, the other Part is sent to Market.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Die Jovis, 30° Aprilis 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

The Reverend WHITWORTH RUSSELL is called in, and further examined as follows:

Are there any Observations that you wish to make to the Committee in addition to your former Evidence?

I wish, with the Permission of your Lordships, to point out to the Committee the great Importance which I attach to Religion, as forming a most essential Part of Prison Discipline. The gross Ignorance as to Religious Matters in which almost all the Inmates of Prisons are found to be,—the Inefficacy of any System, unconnected with Religion, towards effecting Reformation, and maintaining any good Impressions, produced by Separation from evil Companions, Silence, and Reflection,—the Inadequacy of any Means without Religion to produce a permanent Effect, leads me to express very strongly, though with great Submission and Respect to the Committee, my Opinion of the Importance and Necessity of making Religion an essential Part of Prison Discipline. A Chaplain should be appointed to each Gaol. The whole of his Time should be devoted to the Performance of his Duties, and whenever the Number of Prisoners much exceeds Fifty, some Means should be taken of affording him Assistance; by which I mean something similar to that given by the Ladies of the Prison Association in the Case of Females, and Catechists to be under the Control and Direction of the Chaplain in the Case of Male Prisoners. The Offices of Religion, by which I mean Prayer, Sermons, and Exhortations, are altogether ineffectual when unconnected with Religious Instruction. It is by enlightening the Mind that permanent Good can be effected; and the Mind can only be enlightened by a systematic and unremitted Course of Religious Instruction, which requires a large Portion of Time; and however anxious I have been to impress upon the Committee the Necessity of Separation, yet, for the Purposes of Religious Instruction, I think it would be desirable to collect Prisoners together in Classes.

In what Manner?

By assembling them either in the Chapel or in some Apartment of the Prison, and the Prisoners sitting around the Chaplain as a Family, but accompanied by a sufficient Number of Officers who should maintain that Degree of Inspection which would prevent any Communication of an evil Tendency.

Do you mean that the Chaplain should make his Selection of such Prisoners as he thinks are desirable to class together?

Yes, such Persons as he would class together, but having all the Prisoners in some Class or other in turn, so that none should be without Instruction.

You think that the regular Offices of Religion should be attended by all in common, and, besides that, you think there should be not only private Communication with each individual Prisoner by the Chaplain, but that he should make his own Selection of the particular Classes into which he should divide the Prisoners, and communicate with them in that Manner?

I do; and, besides the regular Offices of Religion, to communicate to them Religious Instruction.

If that was done, would it not destroy the Classification in the Establishment which has been already laid down?

I would not confound the Two Classes, but I would subdivide each Class. I do not, however, consider that any great Subdivision of each Class would be

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

necessary; all need Instruction, and there should be a System of Religious Instruction commenced and carried forward by the Chaplain, in the Benefit of which all should share, so that they might all be enlightened. We have such a Plan in force in the General Penitentiary; the Classes are assembled for a certain Number of Hours every Day, except Saturday, in the Chapel; a Portion of Scripture is read by the Prisoners, and then the Chaplain expounds to them, and he makes the Course of Reading bear upon a regular System; so that they are instructed gradually in the great Doctrines, Duties, and Privileges of Religion as they are set forth in Scripture; then in Solitude they have Matter for Reflection; and as the Chaplain sits in the midst of them as in a Family, he can bring his Observations home to the Experience of any Individual by his Knowledge of his former Habits; and, without naming him, he can direct his Observation so as to point to that Individual without the others being aware of his Intention; and by these Means he can do that which I feel assured is alone effectual, namely, communicate Religious Instruction; and, under God's Blessing, I consider that a System of Prison Discipline may then tend to the permanent Reformation of the Individuals; and I humbly submit to the Committee, that when the Separation, the Seclusion, and the Silence which I have ventured to recommend is only broken in upon by these Assemblages for the Purpose of Religious Instruction, Religion is offered in a very inviting Form; it is then their only Solace; it is then when Silence, if Silence is to be maintained, is only broken; it is then when Separation, if Separation is to be maintained, is only violated. And I venture to state that the deep Gratitude and Attention with which the Prisoners receive Religious Instruction in the Penitentiary, and the Use they make of it, is contrasted in a most extraordinary Manner with the Account they give me of the Treatment of Religion in the Prisons generally; there it is almost invariably scoffed at; and those who are at all disposed to take up their Bibles and read them, are subjected to the greatest possible Annoyances.

You do not recommend this System of general Instruction by Class, to the Exclusion of individual Instruction given privately to each Prisoner?

Not to the Exclusion of individual Instruction, but from the Hopelessness of making individual Instruction any thing like that systematic and unremitted Instruction which I think is always necessary.

From the Want of adequate Assistance?

From the Want of adequate Assistance; for One Hour per Week is very little to give to an Individual who is at the Outset grossly ignorant, to instruct him in the great System of Man's Duty and Man's Destiny; and if a Chaplain devotes Eight Hours of his Day to that Part of his Duty, (which is independent of the Time necessary for visiting and praying with the sick, communicating with Friends who are constantly calling, and preparing for the Sabbath Duties, and the Variety of other Calls upon the Chaplain's Time,) and which is scarcely possible for any Man to do when he is to be engaged in earnestly addressing Individuals during the whole of that Time, when, during a great Part of the Year, there is hardly that Quantity of Daylight,—but even if he devotes Eight Hours a Day, he can see Forty-eight in a Week, and he could only once a Week give to each an Hour's Instruction. It is the Hopelessness of making such a System of private Instruction effectual that led me to adopt the Plan I have stated, of assembling the Prisoners in Classes, and of communicating the Instruction which I have found attended with so great a Blessing. Where there is an Association of Prisoners throughout the Day, the Ridicule of one or the other prevents many, who are willing and anxious to receive Religious Instruction, from devoting themselves to an Intercourse with God, to an Examination of their own Hearts, and to acquainting themselves with their Bible; and although Silence were maintained in the Classes, these Objects would be lost; they can only be obtained in Separation. The Eye is so much engaged where there are Companions, that it takes off the Thoughts; it is only in Separation that the Mind can turn upon itself, the Individual reflect upon what he has become, retrace the Steps that have brought him to what he is, and receive, perhaps for the first Time in his Life, that which gives him any thing like permanent and defined Hopes. Amongst the many Objections that I see to the System of Silence in Company, this is one and a very strong one, even if Silence ever could be secured. But the more I have thought upon

117

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

that Part of the Subject, the more I am satisfied that it is a hopeless Attempt to secure and maintain Silence where any Number of Prisoners are associated together by Day and by Night. The Attempt would be productive of constant Reports and constant Punishments, agitating, irritating, and, in the End, hardening the Individuals who are so punished; they would be under a constant Temptation to break the Rule; they would be in a constant State of Torture, seeing Objects around them with whom they might communicate, yet prevented from doing so; and, as applied to Prisoners before Trial, it would be placing them in Situations of almost to a Certainty incurring very considerable Punishments. I have asked many of the Prisoners in the Penitentiary since I last had the Honour of appearing before your Lordships, whether they would prefer the completest Solitude that could be effected, or total Silence in Company, and which they would consider the greatest Punishment, and they have said they would prefer the Solitude, and that they would consider the forced Silence in Company as the greatest Punishment; but they have all added, "it could not be done—it could not be kept." I have ventured to recur to this Part of the Subject as in connexion with Religion, because it is in Company that I think Religion is likely to receive so serious an Injury. They will have Subjects to occupy their Thoughts; and even those who are well-disposed will have the Fear of their Fellow Men constantly before their Eyes; whereas in Separation they would be saved from that.

You have stated that you think that Silence ought to be obtained as far as possible?

Silence ought to be obtained as far as possible, decidedly.

And there would be no Difficulty if the Prisoners were confined in separate Cells?

There would not be so great a Difficulty. But in the Prisons where they have succeeded to a certain Degree in obtaining Silence they have Work, which is a great Assistance to the Prison Discipline; but before Trial you cannot inflict Labour, and it is an immensely increased Difficulty to preserve Silence where the whole Day is passed without Occupation, and it is an immensely increased Punishment.

Are you able to carry into effect your Plan of giving Instruction to them by Classes, generally, as often as once a Day?

Not regularly; many Duties and Calls upon the Chaplain's Time occur, which prevent him from assembling his Classes; but by taking any lengthened Period, there is quite a sufficient Degree of Regularity to give to each Individual who remains some time in the Institution a regular and systematic Course of Instruction. The same Classes are also assembled in the Afternoons by the Schoolmaster, who pursues a Course of Reading with the Prisoners, laid down by the Chaplain, bearing upon the Subjects which he is pursuing. There are also Schools twice a Week in each Ward of the Prison for an Hour and a Half each Time; and the Instruction given in those Schools is also made to bear upon the Course of Instruction pursued by the Chaplain; so that at all Times the Object he has in view is being followed out.

Have you ever found any Persons in the Penitentiary that have come to you so hardened that you could nor make any Impression upon them by Religion?

I cannot say that. I have seen several upon whom I did not hope any permanent Impression would be made; but I am not aware that I have seen any Instance where no Impression has been made by Religion. They receive the Instruction with Surprize. "I know nothing of this," is the frequent Answer. "I considered Religion a very different Thing; I never thought of these Things; I never carried them out to these Objects; it is altogether a new View that is presented to me, and it is for the first Time I have thought of or understood these Things; and I therefore consider myself altogether in a different Situation, and under a totally different Degree of Responsibility."

Have you had a great Number that have not had the least Idea of Religion?

None but the most formal Ideas; that there is a God, and that there is some future State; nothing more; but as to how they are to be fitted for that

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

State, how they are ever to have an Atonement made for their Sins which they know and feel they commit, how they are ever to escape the Punishment which they believe awaits the wicked in the one State, or arrive at the Bliss prepared for the believing in the other, they have not the most distant Conception.

Should you say that of many of the Prisoners?

Of a great many. A State of gross Ignorance on Religious Subjects exists in the criminal Population; the Habits of Idleness and Excess in which they indulge are calculated to degrade the Mind, and they have scarcely the Power of reflecting; a Degree of Torpor and Apathy comes on, and they get the Power of casting off altogether unpleasant Subjects, and they live what they call "a merry Life," but it is a Life of Thoughtlessness and Insensibility.

Are there many Adults that come to you that have never attended any Place of Worship?

There are few but have attended some Place of Worship, but not with any Regularity, and they have generally ceased altogether for some Time previous to their committing their Offences.

What do you find to be the State of their Minds with respect to the Importance of Prayer, generally speaking?

At first they attach no great Importance to Prayer; they are not in the habit, I think, of using any Prayer; perhaps they may have attended the prescribed Prayers in the Prison from which they came, but they are not, I think, in the habit of using any voluntary Prayer in their Retirement with God. I think it is always one of the sure Signs of Conversion taking place when they value and use Prayer. The Subject of Prison Labour is also one on which I wish to offer a few Observations to the Committee. The Idleness that exists in Prisons generally is one, I think, of their greatest Evils. It is only confirming the Habits which have been instrumental in bringing Men into Prisons; but then the following his own Trade is leading a Man to forget that he is a Prisoner; he sees but little Alteration in his Situation; the teaching a Man a Trade, though apparently of great Importance to enable him to obtain his Living when he shall be restored to Society, is making his Crime and his Imprisonment the Means of bettering his Condition, and, in so far, it diminishes the Force of Imprisonment in deterring others from entering upon a Course of Crime. The various Manufactures that are carried on in Prisons require constant Communication with the Prisoners, which violates that Silence and Separation so essential to be maintained in a Prison; it dissipates the Gloom of a Prison, which is also of great Importance to be kept up: and all these Things tend to lull the Prisoner into a State of Unconsciousness of his Situation as a Convict, and that he is undergoing a penal Sentence. Labour is absolutely necessary, as I commenced with stating; but as these and many other Objections lie to the Introduction of Manufactures into Prisons, a decidedly penal Labour, such as the Tread-wheel or Crank-wheel, is the only Labour that my Experience would induce me to recommend. In all Instances there should be penal Labour, and that to a very great Extent, not affecting the Health, so as to constitute Punishment. The Pursuit of Manufactures in a Prison leads to constant Reports and Punishments, amongst other Causes from the extreme Difficulty of ascertaining whether any Injury which may be done to the Articles is the Result of Intention and Mischief, or of Ignorance or Accident.

When it is considered that the Penitentiary is a Place the Object of which is to reform the Prisoners, do not you think it desirable that they should be taught such Kind of Employment in the Prison as would be likely to make them more useful Members of Society when they leave it?

I do not think it is desirable under any Circumstances to give to a Prisoner that which would place him in a better Situation than he would have been in had he never entered the Prison. A Prison should be a Place of Privations, not of Advantages; and the Advantages given should be all of a moral, not of a temporal Nature.

Would not this Opinion be lessened in some Degree when you reflect upon the

the long Period of Confinement which they must necessarily undergo in the Penitentiary?

I think not. I have formed the Opinion I have expressed from so much Thought and Observation that I think none of the Advantages which are supposed to be gained by the Introduction of Manufactures would induce me to consent to use them.

The Question refers to teaching them that Sort of manual Labour which they would be able to pursue with Profit and Advantage after discharged from the Penitentiary?

Where there is the Degree of Separation which we have in the Penitentiary, (and I think it ought to be much greater both in that and every other Prison,) it is impossible to teach thoroughly any Trade. Our People are almost all confined to tailoring, from not being able to give them any other Employment, and from the extreme Difficulty of obtaining Work for such large Numbers; and though a Man may receive Instruction in tailoring for Three Years or more, it is under such Disadvantages, arising from Separation, that at the End of that Time very few are competent to do any but the coarsest Slop-work, and they know nothing either of cutting out a Garment or doing any of the finer Work, which would enable them to get their Livelihood as Tailors; and the Fact is, that very few do pursue that Trade after they are liberated.

Do your Observations upon this Subject apply to the Females as well as to the Male Prisoners?

I wish to keep the Females altogether out of sight at this Time, and to make my Observations apply solely to Males.

When the Committee visited the Penitentiary were there not some Lancashire Men who were employed in weaving, and some others who were employed in other Work that they had been used to before?

Your Lordships saw a few employed in weaving, but I do not think we have above Ten or Fifteen out of the whole 500 so employed, because by the Power Loom and by other Improvements in Machinery they can produce every Kind of Article at so much lower a Price than we can, that we have no Employ for Weavers.

Then what is the Object of employing the Ten or Fifteen?

There is a Kind of Calico made in the Penitentiary which a few Persons are desirous of obtaining, and we have the Orders from private Individuals. We make also Shirting for our own Prisoners, and sometimes for those in the Hulks. I believe this is the Case, though upon this Subject I am not capable of giving very accurate Information.

Was the Object of employing the Prisoners in that Work in some degree with a view to the Sale?

Only in the Execution of Orders. We have nothing in the Penitentiary but a Labour Account. We receive the Articles and we manufacture them, and we charge upon each Article so much for making it up.

Did you mean to say that you considered the Advantage arising to a Prisoner from obtaining the Knowledge of a Trade, by which he may be enabled to obtain an honest Livelihood, not to counterbalance the Evil which you apprehended might result from it?

My Intention was to represent that the Evils arising from such an Employment of the Prisoners are much greater than any Good we could hope would result from it.

But you do not mean to deny that some Advantage is to be derived from an Acquaintance and a Knowledge of such Trade as would enable a Person to get his Livelihood honestly afterwards?

Undoubtedly an Individual would derive considerable Benefit if he acquired that Knowledge.

But, for the sake of Discipline, you think that Knowledge is more than counterbalanced by the Circumstances you state?

Not only with a view to Discipline; I go further. You have so little Opportunity of instructing to any useful Purpose in a Prison, that, after you have done all you can, you have not furnished the Man with a Trade that he can

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

follow profitably. You fail altogether in the Object you are pursuing. In most Instances a Man has a Trade of some Kind when he comes in, and which, when he is liberated, he is much more disposed and qualified to follow than he is the Trade which you would teach him in the Institution; and by almost all sedentary Employments, such as tailoring, &c., Habits of Indolence are induced. It is extremely difficult to know what Quantity of Work a Man can and ought to do; and there are great Efforts made by the Body of Prisoners at large to keep down the Quantity of Work as low as possible; and therefore in the course of Three Years, instead of acquiring Habits of Industry, and being inured to Labour, the Prisoner is, in fact, greatly debilitated, and loses whatever laborious Habits he may have had when he came into the Prison; and thus with respect to that large Body of Persons who are obliged to obtain their Livelihood by hard Labour, a great Injury is done to them. The Agricultural Labourer, the hard-working Artisan, the Smith, and the Carpenter, by sitting at tailoring, or even at weaving, for Three Years, is totally unstrung; and if he is ever to return again to his former Trade he has to go through a most painful Course of training before he is fitted to contend again with those whom he meets with in his own Walk of Life; and therefore it is, I consider, that, for a Prison Labour, the Tread-wheel or the Crank-wheel is much preferable: and if a Separation could be made between the Parties at work, so as to prevent Communication, I should consider the Crank-wheel a better Machine than the Tread-wheel.

Are you aware that there is a Crank-wheel with separate Divisions at the Petworth House of Correction?

I have heard that there is.

In addition to the Reasons you have now stated, is not one of your great Objections to the System, that the Instructors themselves are Prisoners?

Another Objection I have to the Introduction of Manufactures is the Necessity of employing, either so large a Number of Officers as would lead to a ruinous Expenditure, or else which would lead Prisoners to constant Intercourse with those whom they are to instruct and overlook in their Trade, by this Means causing Contamination, and the Violation of Silence and Separation.

Are you aware, from any Information which you have received from Prisoners who have been discharged from the Penitentiary, whether any Benefit has resulted to them from the Trade which they had been taught when in the Penitentiary?

Yes; in a few Instances I have received such Information, but in very few Instances.

Have you in any Instances had Statements from them, that, instead of being benefited, they found themselves to have been very imperfectly taught?

Constantly. I would wish upon this Point also to say, that even if a Trade could be taught in a Manner that would benefit the Individual and assist his Reformation, it would be diminishing from the deterring Part of the System, which I think ought never to be lost sight of: you are both to deter from Crime, and to correct and reform the Offender; and every thing that diminishes from the deterring Effect of Imprisonment is very injurious; and you are gaining any Step to Reformation at a great Price if you thereby diminish the Fear of coming to a Prison.

Do not you think in that respect the Penitentiary ought to be looked upon in a somewhat different Manner from what it is at present?

I think not; I think it is very desirable and very practicable to unite the Two in every penal Institution; but the deterring from Crime should never be lost sight of. I consider that more may be done with those who have not yet found their Way into a Prison than with those who are already there; and you are securing a much greater Degree of Good to the Community at large by throwing around a Prison such a Degree of Gloom and Awe that there will be a Dread of ever entering its Walls.

Is there any other Subject to which you wish to call the Attention of the Committee?

The Subject of inferior Officers employed in Prisons is also one to which I wish very much to beg the Attention of the Committee. It is so important that

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

the Officers who are employed under the Superiors who direct the Institution should be capable of understanding, appreciating, and following out their Views and Directions, that great Care should be taken in the Selection of those Officers, and in determining the Class from which they should be drawn. I find from my Inquiries amongst the Prisoners, as well as from my own Observation, that they are so far from entertaining any Respect for the great Body of the inferior Officers under whom they are placed, especially in the different Gaols from which they have come to us, that they consider them almost as bad as themselves, and that a very small Bribe is sufficient to induce them to depart from the Prison Regulations, and introduce almost any thing. In some Instances I have heard them say, that Half a Pint of Beer would induce an inferior Officer to introduce Tobacco, Beer, or extra Provisions, if he could do it with Impunity. This is a Point of such Importance that I cannot help calling the Attention of your Lordships to this Part of the Subject. Prison Discipline and the Superintendence of Prisoners is quite a Science, so many Qualifications are requisite in all who are employed in Prisons. Such high Moral and Religious Principles, such a Degree of Judgment and Penetration, so much Forbearance and Benevolence, so many Requisites, in short, go to form good Officers, that very great Care should be taken in selecting and appointing them; and if any Means could be devised for securing the Object, if there could be any Persons whose Duty it was to inquire after and seek out such Persons, and to have, as it were, a Register of them, so that, when they were wanted, Magistrates and Governors of Gaols might know where to apply for fitly qualified Officers, it would be a very great Benefit; and I have been led to think that out of the great Body of the Sunday School Teachers we should be more likely to find Persons well qualified for Prison Officers than out of any other Body of Men. They are generally Men who after the Labour of the Week are willing to devote their only Period of Rest, from a Desire of doing Good, to the very difficult and fatiguing Work of Instruction.

Are they in that Class of Life that you would be able to give them a Remuneration sufficient to induce them to undertake those Offices?

I think they are often of such a Class of Life that our Remuneration would be sufficient.

What is the Salary?

Fifty Pounds a Year, Rations, and Lodging, and also a Per-centage upon the Prisoners Work; but that is so great an Evil that I should strongly recommend the Reduction of that Part of their Emoluments.

Does it consist with your Belief that very often the Officers appointed in Prisons are chosen, not on account of their Moral Worth, but on account of their Cleverness in performing the Duties?

I cannot answer that Question. I think that if ever there were a Body of Inspectors or Commissioners appointed for the Government of Prisons generally, it would be one of their most important Duties to look after a proper Supply of Officers; and I think that with them it might be safely lodged.

If such Persons were appointed, with a Power of selecting proper Individuals for those Offices, should not you think that the Control of those Officers, and the Power of dismissing them, should be lodged in the Hands of the Visiting Justices or Governor?

With the Governor, I should think; he is responsible for the Safety and the Order of the Prison, and therefore all those to whom the Execution of his Orders is confided should be under his Control and Direction.

Are not the Governors now a much better Class of Men than they were some Years ago?

Much better I believe than formerly; but they cannot be of too high a Class, where the Duty confided to them is so great—that of endeavouring to diminish Crime, and to promote the Reformation of the Offenders.

Are you of opinion that Police Officers form a Class out of which it is desirable to select Governors of Prisons?

Decidedly not. My Observations are now made with reference to inferior Officers, and I am not favourable to the Employment of either Police Officers or Military Men. Although they are qualified, from their Habits and Know-

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

ledge of Discipline, to maintain a great Degree of Order, they are not peculiarly qualified (and I say this from my own Observation) for following up that which is the great Object of a Prison.

Is there any other Point upon which you wish to offer any Suggestion?

On the Subject of Emigration also perhaps I may be permitted to offer a few Observations. I think it is so desirable that those who have once been in Prison should be altogether removed from the Country, that every Facility should be afforded to their emigrating to some of the penal Colonies; and if when a single Man or a Youth was sentenced to Two or Three Years Imprisonment, it were offered to him, at the Expiration of a Portion of his Time, passed under severe penal Discipline, to banish himself for Life, and subject himself for a certain Time to an Apprenticeship in the Colony, for the Purpose of covering the Expenses of his Removal from this Country, I think that in many Instances the Prisoners would be desirous of availing themselves of that Offer, and the Country would be relieved of a Part of its Population not calculated to be of Value or Benefit to it.

Would not that militate against your Principle of making the Punishment certain?

I do not think it militates against that Principle, for I do not propose that it should in any Degree be made dependent upon his supposed good Conduct; if he accepts the Offer he goes out of the Country for Life; he is still under a certain Degree of Punishment as an Apprentice, and perhaps for a longer Time. The Offer will not be made as the Reward of any supposed good Conduct, but it will be made to one and all. I do not know whether it comes within the Province of this Committee to receive a Suggestion which I am about to offer. As the Reformation of Prisons generally is one of the great Objects of the Committee, the lightening those Gaols of the largest Number of Prisoners possible would be a very great Step towards it; and if any thing like a summary Jurisdiction could be given to Magistrates in Petty Sessions, to try, with a summary Jury, small Offences, and to sentence at once to such a Period of Confinement as they think the Crime deserves, it would obviate the Necessity of committing to Prisons for Trial, and loading that Part of the Prison, as it now so frequently is, with petty Offenders mixed up with grave and experienced Depredators. The immediate Neighbourhood of the Place of holding the Petty Sessions would furnish Juries, who might, in consequence of their once a Fortnight furnishing those Juries, be exempted from attending the Assize Towns for several Days together, once or twice in a Year, at a Time when Farmers are most wanted on their Lands. A more certain and immediate Punishment would follow the Commission of the Crime. Many a Man, at the Time he is first robbed and angry, will, if he has the Means of doing so, punish an Individual, perhaps a Boy, who has plundered his Orchard or his Wood, Rick, or committed some petty Offence, but if he has to wait 'till he has had Time to calculate all the Inconveniences of going before a Magistrate to lay his Depositions, and afterwards going to the Assizes to prosecute, in many Instances he will pass over the Wrong done him, rather than punish the Offender, who may thus be encouraged to go on to greater Crimes; and therefore I consider that a more certain Punishment would be the Consequence of this summary Jurisdiction. It would also be more immediate, for it would follow the Crime almost instantly; and the idle and profligate in the Neighbourhood would become almost immediately acquainted with the Fate of their Companion; it would come more immediately home to them by their hearing of the certain and immediate Punishment that had awaited him; and in that Way it would lead to the Prevention of Crime in many Instances; it would also lead to the lightening of the Prisons, which would be a very great Object gained. And I think that the Petty Sessions, being public and open to any Magistrate who chooses to attend, and being provided with a Jury, which however need not be so numerous as at present, nor their Verdict unanimous, would take away many of the Objections that some People now feel to increasing the Power of Magistrates; and I think that the sound Principles and the good Sense of the great Body of Magistrates will make up for what they may sometimes be found wanting in, in presiding over these numerous Courts. I think that the extending the Power of taking Bail would also render a very important Assistance in relieving Prisons from the Numbers who are now committed for Trial. In Agricultural Districts it may

123

not do much, because very few can find Bail; but in Towns, from whence you get the worst Prisoners, it may be of very great Use.

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

You stated in your former Examination, that for the First Year after the Discharge of the Prisoners from the Penitentiary you receive Information with respect to their good Conduct, with a view to giving them Gratuities. Is that Information carried on beyond the First Year after their Discharge?

We have no Means of knowing what is the Conduct of discharged Prisoners after that Year; wherever I can keep my Eye upon an Individual I do so, and the Governor does the same; but as we are so closely confined, and our Duties so constantly occupy us, and there is so much Correspondence, it is almost impossible that we can keep up an Acquaintance with any Number. It is very few indeed upon whom at this Moment I can put my Hand.

Will you state what is the Practice with respect to the Gratuities?

The Prisoner, if he be within Reach of the Penitentiary, calls at the End of the Year, and leaves at the Governor's Office a Statement of the Masters he has served, the Places where he has lived for that One Year, and the Places of Worship he has attended; and he gives References to different Individuals who can speak as to his general Character and Conduct. These Statements are confided to the Schoolmaster, who is a very superior Man, a Man of considerable Ability, and of very high Integrity and Character, and therefore much to be depended upon. He investigates all these Cases. If the Parties with whom the Prisoner has resided or by whom he has been employed are acquainted with the Circumstance of his having been in the Penitentiary, then an open Inquiry is at once made, and the Result of those Inquiries is, in Writing, reported to the Superintending Committee. If the Parties do not know the Fact of the Prisoner having been in the Penitentiary, great Care is taken not to communicate it, or to excite any Suspicion; but still a sufficient Inquiry is made to ascertain the Correctness of his Statements. If the discharged Person is residing in the Country, Letters are written by his Employer, certified by the Minister of his Parish, either to the Governor or to myself; those Letters and Testimonials are always verified either by the Governor or myself, and every Pains is taken to prevent Imposition; and very close Questions are put to the Parties with respect to the Way in which the discharged Prisoners have obtained their Livelihood, what have been their Habits, particularly as to Industry, Sobriety, and Honesty, what Sort of Company they have kept, and whether they have attended any Place of Worship regularly; and the Answers to these Letters are laid before the Superintending Committee, upon which they award such Gratuity, not exceeding 3*l.*, as they think the Case deserves. The Object is not by the Amount of the Reward to induce them to pursue a Course of Conduct which they would not do but for the Reward, but to persuade them to come back to us to let us know where they are. It is sufficient for that Purpose, but I do not think it is sufficient to induce them to pursue a different Course of Conduct than they otherwise would have done; and as the First Year is the most difficult and trying, so if they have gone on well for that One Year there is great Reason to hope that they will continue in the same good Course.

What is the Practice with respect to giving Assistance to Prisoners when they are discharged from the Penitentiary?

A Prisoner at his Liberation receives a Suit of very good Clothes, with Two Changes of Linen, a Hat, and Shoes, and an Eighth of his Earnings is constantly put by for him, which he at that Time receives. He has an Interview first of all with the Governor, who settles his Account and gives him his Discharge; he then comes to the Chaplain, who sees him in private, and delivers to him his parting Advice and Warning; he gives him a Bible in almost all Instances; and the Individual goes forth well clothed, with Money in his Pocket, and in many Instances, I trust, with good Resolutions upheld by sound Principles. Great Pains are taken to induce the Friends of the Prisoner to find him Employment before the Day of his Liberation; so that the Man, in many Instances, goes at once to a Place of Work. If his Friends reside in London or its Neighbourhood they are written to, and the Prisoner is not discharged 'till his Friends arrive, to whose Care he is confided. If the Prisoner resides in the Country, an Officer accompanies him either to the Coach, or, if

Rev. Whitworth Russell.

he is going to Ireland or Scotland, to the Vessel in which he is to embark, pays his Fare out of a Part of the Prisoner's Earnings, and sees him off; so that every Care is taken to deliver the Individual to his Friends as soon as he is discharged.

If an Allowance is made to each Prisoner of One Eighth of his Earnings, that must of course vary very much in its Amount, according to the Length of Time of his Confinement?

It does; and according to their Skill; and the Consequence is that not the most meritorious but the most skilful obtain the greatest Amount; and that is a Part of the System which, in the Paper I have had the Honour of laying before the Committee, I have adverted to.

Do they sometimes receive as much as 15*l.* or 20*l.*?

In no Instance within my Knowledge: the ordinary Amount is from 30*s.* to 4*l.*, and it rarely exceeds 4*l.*; there are some few very good Tailors, who have been employed upon fine Work, who may have earned for their Per-centage from 7*l.* to 10*l.*; I am not certain that I ever remember an Instance of a Prisoner receiving 10*l.* for his Earnings; the Average, as I have said before, is from 30*s.* to 4*l.*, but I am only speaking from Memory.

What you have just stated applies to the Male Prisoners; does the same Rule apply with respect to the Female Prisoners?

It does, and their Earnings are about the same; in the Laundry, as the Labour is harder, the Women are allowed Two Eighths upon the nominal Wages appointed them, and there they generally earn more than in other Employments, and, generally speaking, they receive more Money than the Men do at their Discharge.

You have stated, with respect to the Male Prisoners, that you disapprove of the System of furnishing profitable Employment in the Penitentiary. With respect to the Female Prisoners, do not you think it is very desirable that the Women in the Penitentiary should be taught such Things as may contribute to their domestic Comfort on quitting the Prison?

It is certainly very desirable that the Women should be taught every thing that can qualify them for becoming useful Members of Society; still keeping constantly before their Eyes the Fact of their being Convicts. I consider, however, that a very different System of Prison Discipline should be applied to Women from that which ought to be applied to Men; though with Women also I would have Silence and Separation strictly observed, for Women contaminate one another even more than the Men do. But I would address myself to this Part of the Question in a totally different Manner. I see hardly any thing in common between the Case of a Male and a Female Convict.

You feel convinced that the highest Amount of Earnings that has ever been gained by any Prisoner does not exceed 10*l.*?

To the best of my Knowledge and Belief, during the Period in which I have been Chaplain to the Penitentiary, that is the greatest Amount. Prisoners sometimes bring in a considerable Sum of Money with them, which is placed in the Governor's Hands, and is carried to their Account, and that forms, of course, Part of the Money delivered to them at their Liberation. There are Instances of Persons receiving more than 15*l.* at their Liberation, but then a large Part of that has been their own Money. I have known Instances of their having 40*l.* or 50*l.* of their own Money.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned till To-morrow, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Veneris, 1° *Maii* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Sir JAMES WILLIAMS is called in, and examined as follows:

Are you a Visiting Magistrate of Cold Bath Fields?
I am.

Has there been any Change in the Discipline of that Prison lately?
There has been a considerable Alteration; the Silence, I think, has been productive of great Benefit.

Do you think that the Punishments for Misconduct in the Gaol have decreased since Silence has been enacted?
Assuredly they have.

Can you suggest any Alterations in the Gaol Act which would be beneficial?
I would say, first of all, that solitary Confinement, if properly conducted, strikes me as one of the best Modes of Punishment at the present Day. When young, I had a good deal of Intercourse with Mr. Howard, and that has given me, I believe, some Aptitude, at least it has given me great Anxiety, to pursue Prison Inquiries from my earliest Time; and whenever I have travelled, both in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Abroad, I have made it my Business to see as many Prisons as I could obtain Admittance to. Now, with respect to solitary Confinement, I know that Mr. Howard's Idea was, that the more solitary it was made the better; that a short Time, completely solitary, even in some Instances he thought if the Gaolers were not allowed to speak to them but in case of real Necessity, it would be better. But solitary Confinement, I think, should have for the Health of the Prisoner some little Opening into the Air, and I believe this Country would be benefited by meeting the Expense at once, and having Cells that would open into the Air where the Confinement was for more than a short Period; and I think also it ought to be imperative that a Convenience for the Purposes of Nature should be in every Cell. I think it is a great Injury to the Health, and very galling to the Feelings, that such a Lack of Cleanliness should be experienced. When I speak of solitary Confinement and the Gaoler not having Intercourse, I recollect that at Berne, in Switzerland, I got Admittance, with much Difficulty, into a small Room where there were Four Men confined; I forget their Terms, but I know the Time they had been in was from Three to Twenty Years, and one of them said, on our being allowed to speak to him, that the greatest Privilege they had, although the Doors were not opened, nor had been for Two Years, was the Sight of their Gaoler at the Window, because he was a Man differently circumstanced to themselves, having Liberty. Then I would remark that there were Two Soldiers whom I visited myself in our solitary Cells at Cold Bath Fields. I put the Question to one of them, "How long have you been here;" "Six Weeks" I think he said, but I know that he said that he had been Half his Time; and I said, "Which do you think is the best, receiving corporal Chastisement, or being confined in this Cell?" He said, "I would rather, though I have served Half my Time, receive the Punishment To-morrow Morning at the Halberds, than remain here the other Half of the Time." In the very next Cell I went to was a very rough Irishman, and when I put the same Question to him, he said, "Oh your Honour, I have no Arms to keep clean, nor no Duty to perform, and nothing to do but to be here; it is no Punishment at all." Therefore as to any general Rule that will apply to every Temper, I be-

Sir James Williams.

I believe that is impossible; but I believe that really solitary Confinement would have more Effect than any thing else, and especially in the present Day. When I say the present Day, there is another important Question that arises, and that is the Punishment of Whipping. The public Mind is against it; I believe that that makes it a more objectionable Punishment than in itself in the Abstract it was. When I was Sheriff, which was 1820-21, at that Time the Punishment of Whipping, I was persuaded, to Two Descriptions of Persons, was a good Punishment; the one was to very old Thieves, who were shamed by it when they were publicly whipped; the other was to Boys, in private. But to younger Men, where there was a Chance of reclaiming, I was persuaded that it was a very bad Punishment; that it let them down in their own Estimation, from which they had great Difficulty ever to rise; but that they dreaded it as a Matter of Pain I am quite sure. I recollect Two Men who were tried at the Old Bailey, young Men, who were Porters in Covent Garden Market, and they had had to that Time a good Character, but the Court ordered them to be imprisoned Six Months, and they were to be twice whipped. I did during the whole of my Shrievalty what I think some public Officer that is responsible ought always to do. I attended not only the Executions, but I attended the whipping of every Person that was whipped by Order of the Old Bailey Sessions, unless it was some Five or Six that were publicly whipped at the London Docks. But those Two Men, they were young Men,———told me that the Applications that were made were immense after the First Whipping. I never went into the Prison, and I never saw them, but what if they had not been prevented they would have gone on their Knees begging and praying that if it was possible I would do something to avert that Second Punishment. There was another Case of Four Men; there were Eight that were called the Rescue Gang. It is rather a strange Anomaly in the Law, but the succeeding in rescuing was not so heavy an Offence as though they had not succeeded; but Four of them had been convicted before and were transported. There were Four others that ——— ——— begged of me, he said, "It is a Duty, Sheriff, that you owe the Public, that you should have these Men very severely corrected." He said, "I believe the Law will not allow us;" but he took one whole Session to consult whether he could have them whipped more than twice, They were very severely whipped the First Time, but the poor Creatures between that Time and the next it was dreadful to see them; and I believe I would have suffered some Punishment myself rather than have stood by and seen them as severely whipped a Second Time. They certainly were not, but it had, I believe, the same Effect that it would if they had been as severely whipped a Second Time, for they went out, I believe, determined to be honest if they could. I think Two of them did reclaim. I know that Two did not, and when I spoke to them they said, "What are we to do; nobody would employ us; we had better have been transported; it would have been a Kindness to us if we had." But, I think, in the present Day, owing to the great Objection that is made by the Public, there is a Feeling that has gone Abroad, and without having the Support of that Feeling generally, unless the Execution of the Law is supported by that Feeling, I think that Punishment may do Injury instead of Benefit; but I think with Boys it is now in private a most excellent Punishment, and I hope the Power of the Magistrates to order Whipping for gross Insubordination in Prison will never be taken away. But I think that upon this Subject, and with respect to the Separation of Cells, and the general Dietary, and all the Proceedings within a Prison, the Execution of the Laws should be rendered the same all over the Kingdom. Now, I have been asked, when I was Sheriff, whether I did not feel very much at Executions. I did what I believe was almost without Precedent; I conveyed the Tidings of Death to every Man and a Woman,—I had Thirty-six Men and One Woman in One Year,—and the Respites to all those that received either conditional or absolute Pardon. I conveyed the Tidings to them myself, and I really did not feel so much Pain in doing that, because the Punishment was defined. I should have been a Brute if I had not behaved to them with all the Kindness I could. But the Onus of Whipping, where the Court especially had desired that it should be severe, where the Public were watching ready to catch hold of any thing to censure the Sheriff, I felt it a Responsibility that was almost too much for me; and at one Sessions I had Fifty-three or Fifty-five to whip, and I could not stand it, and I was obliged to have the Punish-

127

Sir James Williams.

ment Two different Days, for I could not bear to stand by to see it; but I did attend to it myself. I have with respect to Boys (and I have been censured for it), but I have with little Boys, when I was Sheriff, desired that they might be whipped with Birch on the Posteriors as a Schoolboy. With respect to the Inequality of the Diet and Inequality of Indulgences, the Inequality of admitting Letters either to be received in or sent out through this Kingdom is very great indeed; but I think that solitary Confinement, if it is to answer a good Purpose, ought to be short and severe. I think that when Prisoners are put into Confinement, a short Time, making it completely solitary, would be abundantly better than a longer Time with a great many Indulgences; and I think it would awe them the more, and it would be less Expense to the Counties that have to maintain them. I see in Mr. Crawford's Report it is stated that in some of the American States they have even Execution in private; that is to say, a certain Number of Magistrates and a few of the Prisoner's Friends are admitted, but that it is not exposed to the Public. I believe myself that a great deal more Injury has been done by public Executions in this Country than ever Benefit; I think that many have been really taught to steal under the Gallows, and I think the Excitements at those Times to the Public are very injurious; sometimes an extraordinary Degree of Pity, and sometimes quite the Reverse; for example, the most melancholy Case of the Governor Wall, when the whole Concourse of People hurra'd as he was going into Eternity. I think that if a certain Number of Persons that could be trusted were present, so that the Public could not have an Idea that any thing wrong could be practised,—I think it would be a great deal better to have them in private than to have them in public. Again, although I am of a most liberal Turn in admitting Religious Teachers that are really required by the Prisoners themselves, especially when going towards Death, I think that many of the Accounts that have been given of the happy and triumphant State in which the Man's Mind has been in going out of the World have been followed by a great deal of Mischief Abroad. I have had many Prisoners say to me, "Well, if the worst comes to the worst, we shall get Pardon, and we shall go to Heaven." Now, however I would rejoice at the happy State of Mind of any Man, I think it is one thing for him to possess it, and another thing to make a Boast of it Abroad. I had a remarkable Instance of that in my Shrievalty with a Man whose Wife was recommended to me by Mrs. Fry. I told her that I would do something for her if she would come to me afterwards; she was in great Distress; I referred her to the Account in the Newspaper of the happy Exit of her Husband, and she said there was not a Word of Truth in it, for when she was allowed by me to take leave of him a Second Time, they were whispering a few Minutes, and saluted, and they separated; and she said that his Language then to her was, and that was Fifteen Hours before his Execution, that "If I had a free Pardon at Night, and could not get Money in any other Way, I should think I was doing no Harm to rob the first Man I could;" and yet there was an Account of a most triumphantly happy Death in the Papers. Now I do think that is one of the Evils that should be guarded against; and I did not think it decorous what was done, and I could not avoid it, because my Colleague would allow it; but I have seen Six or Seven, and I believe more, but I am sure I have seen as many Reporters in the Room on the Morning of an Execution, minuting down; and I have heard Observations by the poor Creatures that were to die in a few Minutes as to what they were about, and I think that very improper. I think again, that one of the greatest Evils, (and I have often pointed it out to ———— who took a great deal of Pains and conversed with me very much upon the Subject,) that one of the greatest Evils is, that the Prisoners who leave our Prisons do not know in general what shall become of them, because, although we give them something, yet when that is gone, whether it be *5s.* or *5l.*, they are still without Character; and it has long struck me that there might perhaps be some national Institution. I am astonished myself that private Persons have not taken it up; to establish something like a Workhouse where Men and Women might go and say, "I have come in for One, Two, or Three Days Work." They might be absent a Day to see if they could obtain Work out of Doors, and if not they might work there so long voluntarily as to prove that they were desirous of getting an honest Livelihood, instead

Sir James Williams.

of being sent into the Street, as they are, without any Character. With respect to the Silence, I would say that is what I have long wished, but there has been a great deal to contend with. The Kindness of Magistrates in the present Day is such, that to establish a strict Discipline is rather hard Work at once; but I have no Doubt now that the Magistrates of Middlesex will soon find that the Punishment is one of the best that can be inflicted, because it will be productive of that Dislike to the Middlesex Prisons, that if other Counties do not do the same I think they will run away from Middlesex into those Counties, and then we shall lose them, although they may obtain them.

Are you a Visiting Justice of Clerkenwell?
Yes.

Is Silence enacted in that Prison?
No.

For what Reason?
I have been on several Committees to pursue Inquiries to lay before the Court, but there has been always something to stop us before we got to our Termination.

Is there any great Difficulty in enforcing Silence, from the Nature of the Building itself?
From the Building itself it is impossible; but I think if the excellent Governor of the House of Correction Cold Bath Fields had, in addition to his present Duties, the Care of this Prison, and the Approval of all his Officers, he would very much improve the Discipline and make it far towards satisfactory, for we are very inefficient in our Officers as well as in the Building; it requires to be pulled down.

Are you aware that there are often from Thirty to Forty untried Prisoners in the same Yard in Clerkenwell Prison?
Certainly, and a greater Number.

Clerkenwell, being a Prison for Persons untried, are you not aware that Wardsmen are appointed to keep Order in the Prison, who are convicted Prisoners?
I believe there have been.

Do not you believe that a great deal of indecent talking, swearing, and cursing takes place in that Prison?
Most assuredly; and I never knew a strong Check put to that except when Two young Men, one the Son of ————————, were sent there for preaching and disturbing the Peace; and they were singing Hymns the greater Part of the Day, so that really it could be heard all over the Prison, and it made such an Alteration that the indecent Language, I believe, was checked very much. But with that Number of Persons put together it is impossible to maintain perfect Discipline; but I think very much more Order might be maintained there; but when first I became a Visiting Magistrate it was almost as bad as Newgate was Twenty Years ago.

Are you a Member of the Corporation of the City of London?
I am not now; I have been, and am now, much associated with the Corporation.

You know no more about the Prisons under the Jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor and the Alderman than any other Gentleman?
I think I do very much more; as Sheriff, Newgate was my Prison; I had a right to the Key at that Time, but not of late Years.

Do not you think that appointing a Wardsman who has been a convicted Prisoner to overlook untried Prisoners is a very bad System?
I do indeed; but I have several Times in our Courts suggested the Propriety of appointing Visiting Magistrates, especially for Clerkenwell Prison. I never could carry my Point, and it strikes me that it is treated rather as a secondary Prison, and that the Weight of the Charge appears to be on Cold Bath Fields, and that the great Care has been to look after that rather than look after the other. We have paid a great deal more Attention to Cold Bath Fields

12

Sir James Williams.

Fields than to Clerkenwell, and I believe One Reason is that the Prison is so ill-built; and again, the frequent Change of the Prisoners, and their being allowed to provide themselves with Food; so that we have considered it almost impracticable to make it very much better; and indeed the efficient County Magistrates of Middlesex have so many Duties to perform that it is well if some are not neglected; and I believe New Prison has been thought hopeless.

Do you conceive that one uniform System of Prison Discipline should be enacted in every Prison in the Country?

I think that 'till that is done every partial Improvement is but one Step towards the Attainment, as it were, of getting to the Top.

Do you think that Inspectors of Prisons should be appointed to visit the different Prisons of the Country, and report to the Secretary of State?

I think 'till that is done every thing will be inefficient; that first of all the same Rules should be laid down for Prisons all over the Kingdom, and in the next place that Men should be found who would examine and see that that was enforced, without interfering with the Magistrates, but that would make Inquiries and obtain Answers to a certain Set of Questions, with Observations of their own, perhaps, upon them; but Men should be chosen that were fit to make this Inquiry. If it was done by mere Favour and Affection, to find Places for certain Men, then it would answer no Purpose whatever, but if Men would take it up from a real Spirit, and with an anxious Desire to benefit the Public, I believe that, and that only, will accomplish the Work which your Lordships have in view.

Are you of opinion that it is very advisable that Care should be taken that Persons before Trial should not, from the Associates with whom they are placed, become worse than when they were when first committed?

I think it is most important; and I would hope that what has been alluded to, of convicted Prisoners being Wardsmen, has not often been the Case latterly; that it was formerly, I well know; but I think that on no Pretence whatever should an untried Prisoner be placed with those that have been tried; and I think that the greatest Kindness should be exercised to those whom the Law bids us believe to be innocent 'till they are convicted.

Are you aware whether there is not a Wardsman at the present Moment in Clerkenwell Prison who has been convicted?

I am not aware of it.

Do you believe that on the 29th of March 1835 there was a Wardsman in Clerkenwell Prison, who was a convicted Prisoner, who sold Tobacco, and Coffee, and Butter, and a Variety of other Things to Prisoners?

I am not aware that there was; but it does not at all surprise me if there was. That a great deal of Mal-doing has been practised in the Prison I have no Doubt, and I never could in any Inquiry get to the End of it; we were always, by some Circumstance, prevented; either the Magistrates who were most in earnest, it was their Turn to go out, or there was a something or other always that prevented us from ever getting to the End of any Inquiry.

You mentioned having seen a Prisoner who had been Six Weeks in solitary Confinement?

He had been Half his Time, and whether the whole Time was Six Weeks or whether it was more, I am not certain; it was a Soldier.

Was he confined by Sentence of Court-martial?

Yes.

It was not by the Governor that he was confined?

No.

By the Sentence of Court-martial the Manner of Punishment was distinctly ordered?

If Soldiers in solitary Confinement are sentenced to hard Labour, they are

Sir James Williams.

compelled to pick Oakum the same as other Prisoners; but if not so sentenced, they are not compelled to do it, for this Reason; other Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour are compelled to do Work, to assist to maintain themselves; but for Soldiers, a Sum of Money, as regulated by Act of Parliament, is daily paid for their Maintenance. The greater Part of them, however, do it from Choice.

If the Soldiers are sent to be confined, they are subject to the ordinary Discipline of the Gaol, if no special Direction is sent?

Most assuredly.

And the Power of the Governor of the Gaol would be applied to them in like Manner as to any other Prisoners?

If they misbehaved the Keeper of the Prison would confine them Three Days, but not longer, in a solitary Cell, without the Order of a Visiting Justice.

When you speak of the Advantages of the System of Silence, do you think that these Advantages would be greatly increased by the Enforcement at the same Time of Religious and Moral Instruction?

I think nothing so good, if you can get Men with a truly missionary Spirit to render the poor Creatures all the Benefit that they can. I think on the one hand they ought not to be those who are violent in their Threats and Denunciations, but rather pointing out that Religion has the Promise of the Life that now is, as well as that which is to come. I think they should show the present Advantages of being religious.

Have you, from any Intercourse you have had with Prisoners that have had the Benefit of such Religious and Moral Discipline, discovered that they themselves thought that their having that Advantage has been of great Benefit to them?

I have very frequently; and I have seen a good many painful Cases to the contrary, where I have tried in vain to benefit Prisoners. But I have had many very happy Cases, where I believe that the Instructions they have received, and the Checks given by Confinement to their licentious Conduct out of Doors, has brought them to Reflection that has been attended with great Advantage.

Have you had Reason to believe, from any Intercourse with those Prisoners after their Discharge, that that has been a permanent Blessing to them?

Yes, I have.

Do you conceive that the Chaplain ought to devote his whole Time and Attention to the Duties of the Prison?

Perhaps, if we speak of Borough Gaols, where there may be but Ten or a Dozen, we can hardly expect that the Magistrates would entail such an Expense upon the County; but where it can I think it is very desirable; the Clergyman being such a Man as I have endeavoured to describe, and having the Wisdom not to interfere with Punishments, and not to keep up an Acquaintance with their Friends out of Doors, in fact, to convey Messages backwards and forwards. At Cold Bath Fields we have the entire Time of a Clergyman, and the Numbers might employ Two. At New Prison we have not this Advantage, although much Room for the Exercise of judicious Christian Benevolence.

You think the Clergyman should confine his Attention to Religious and Moral Duties?

Yes; unless it be aiding young People when they go out of Prison; but I think he ought not to hold Intercourse with their Friends while they are in Prison.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

THOMAS CHARLES HIGGINS, Esquire, is called in, and examined as follows: *T. C. Higgins, Esq.*

You are a Visiting Justice of the Gaols at Bedford?
Yes; there are Three Prisons in the Town, One the Gaol, and Two Houses of Correction.

Have you turned your Attention very much to Prison Discipline?
I have.

Has the System of Discipline in Bedford Gaol been much improved since 1833?
Very much.

What is the present System of Discipline?
A Visiting Justice about Three Years ago undertook to recommend and enforce some great Change; it was first set on foot by an active and intelligent Magistrate living at Bedford, Dr. Hunt; he had to contend with great Difficulties, for he had frequent Occasion to point out the extreme Abuse of Imprisonment in Bedford, and unfortunately did not experience the cordial Co-operation of the Governors in enforcing the desired Changes; he persisted however in his Endeavours, and by the Aid of our Visiting Justices many Alterations were made. It was common for smoking to be generally used in the Prisons; indeed Medical Men were generally found ready to advocate smoking, as a Preventive to Contagion; and it was thought very harsh to prevent talking, and congregating together in Rooms was also considered a Matter of Necessity. There were many other Abuses, such as the continual visiting of Relations and Friends, which interfered with Discipline; and the Visiting Justices were determined as much as possible to prevent those and like Abuses, and it was then recommended that those Changes should take place which I will point out. The First Alteration proposed was, that the Tread-mills should have Wooden Screens, so constructed as to prevent one Prisoner seeing another; and it would be impossible, considering the Noise that the Wheel made, that they should converse; and this Arrangement was found to answer very well. Then, with a view that the Persons off the Wheel should be kept employed, instead of being allowed to congregate and talk together, it was thought desirable that they should be made to walk round a given Space, under the Inspection of a Turnkey, at Intervals from each other, so that they could not talk, and they were obliged to be kept in this Motion 'till it was their turn to go on the Wheel again. It was also thought advisable that the System of the Diet should be very much altered. It was usual to have a Kitchen in both Houses of Correction, and One or Two of the Prisoners were employed as Cooks; this of course was no Punishment to those Individuals, but a Luxury, and they of course had it in their Power to take what they chose from the Saucepan, and, in short, it was a Treat that they were not accustomed to at Home; and therefore it was considered advisable to do away with the Kitchen altogether, and no hot Diet was allowed in any Way, and Meat was not thought to be necessary; it was thought advisable, under the Sanction of the Surgeon, that all warm Drinks should be discontinued. And therefore the Magistrates at Quarter Sessions agreed to adopt the Alteration recommended by the Visiting Justices. I will read an Extract from the Report:—"Hot Diet has been dispensed with, and Half a Pound of Cheese and Two Onions in the course of the Week for each Prisoner on the Wheel substituted; cold Water is alone allowed for Drink; and the Health is in no respect injured, and the Governor of the New House of Correction affirms that there is an unusual Disposition on the Part of the Prisoners evinced to get from Confinement by the Payment of Fines." A Half Quartern Loaf is allowed per Day to each Prisoner, in addition to the Cheese and Onions.

When was that Diet Table established?
It has been established within the last Half Year. With respect to the grinding of Corn, it was usual for the Gaoler to be employed in purchasing Corn; but it was considered that occasionally such an Employment diverted him from his other Duties, and we therefore thought it better that no Corn should be purchased for the Use of the Gaols, and that Bread alone should be contracted for by the Visiting Justices. But it was still thought necessary

T. C. Higgins, Esq.

that the Wheel should be profitably employed, and that Corn for the Use of private Individuals should be ground; and many Persons in the Neighbourhood were anxious to have their Corn ground there, knowing that the Flour would be returned pure; but this was at length thought unadvisable, for there was a continual Repair and other Expences necessary, and other still stronger Reasons, as expressed in the last Report of the Visiting Justices: "Wheat is no longer purchased for the Use of the Prisons; and we have ventured to go One Step farther, by way of Experiment, until your Sessions, by forbidding the Admission of all Corn. We were induced to make this Order in consequence of entertaining some Doubt whether there was much pecuniary Advantage to the County attending the Employment of the Mills for the Use of private Individuals, inasmuch as the grinding of Corn rendered continual Repairs of the Mills necessary, and other Expences occurred, which were avoided by the working of the Mills without Corn; also the Ingress and Egress of the Corn and Flour diverted too much the Attention of the Attendants and Officers from the Conduct of the Prisoners; but, above all, we had the Testimony of the zealous Governor of the New House of Correction, that the continual ringing of the Door Bell, and the passing to and fro of Persons with Corn and Flour, was such a constant Excitement and Source of Amusement to the Minds of the Prisoners, that the Confinement was less irksome to them, and that there was less of that gloomy Solitariness which ought to characterize a Prison-house, in consequence of this Noise and Thoroughfare; and upon the whole we feel persuaded, that if even at the End of the Year the Balance might to a trifling Amount be in favour of the County by admitting Corn to be ground, yet that the Abandonment of that equivocal Advantage is amply compensated by the increased Prison Discipline, and the Removal of all Possibility of Collusion from any Quarter whatever." Many of the Magistrates thought at first, that this was a Step likely to produce Evil, for they observed "that the Prisoners are not employed in any useful Manner; but by setting them to grind the Wheat you are giving them useful Employment, and thus improving their Moral Condition." But the Opinion of the Visiting Magistrates was, that it was by no means desirable that they should be usefully employed; that the Object of Punishment was simply to deter Crime, and that their Religious Improvement could not depend upon any Feeling on the Part of the Prisoners that they were usefully employed; and that during the Time an Individual was in the Prison the Punishment could not be too severe nor too degrading. And with that view it was unanimously agreed to at the Quarter Sessions, that no Corn should be allowed to be ground; and the Result is an Improvement which, when compared with Houses of Correction which I have seen elsewhere, I cannot help thinking will be found very beneficial.

Are you of opinion that the Medical Officer should not change the Prisoners Diet without stating in the Journal his Reasons for so doing?

I think so. Medical Men may be naturally led to sympathize with the Complaint of an Individual, and too readily make a little Order of some extra Indulgence, his Reasons for which ought to be decidedly stated in his Journal Book at the Instant, and he ought to be fully satisfied of the Cogency of them.

Do you know any Mode that can be adopted where there are so many Prisoners that they cannot all be employed upon the Tread-wheel?

The one we adopt at Bedford is this, that the Prisoners are made to walk at Intervals round a Circle upon the Pavement at such Hours during the Day when they are not in their Cells, and I conceive that it is a much more severe Punishment than even the Use of the Tread-mill.

Are you of opinion that Day-rooms are advantageous?

They were found to be a great Evil at Bedford; and in the old House of Correction we are not able to do away with the Day-room, for Want of sufficient Cells.

Do you believe that a great deal of Contamination takes place in the Day-rooms?

A vast deal.

Do you think that the Prisoners Linen should be washed in the Prisons?

Certainly not. In the Prisons at Bedford, first of all, the Women were employed

employed to wash, and for this Purpose they were congregated together, and there were Noise and Talk as a Matter of course; they were also accustomed to wash for the Governors Families, and frequently the Governors were tempted to call upon the Men in some Way to assist, which gave them the Opportunity of conversing with the Women; and certainly the Women were receiving no Punishment, and they were allowed some extra Diet for their Services. But on account of the continual Thoroughfare and Noise which it produced, and the Temptations to Individuals to take some improper Advantages, we found it to be so injurious to Discipline that we at once recommended the Justices to put a Stop to it; and it was found that the Contract Price for which the washing for the Prisoners was afterwards done in the Town was much less than the Cost was to the County when it was done by the Women themselves. *T. C. Higgins, Esq.*

Does not a great deal depend upon the Governors of Gaols and on the Keepers of the Houses of Correction?

A great deal indeed. It is in vain for the Visitors of Gaols to attempt to establish good Discipline unless the Governors of the Gaols feel interested in the Object.

Do you think that the Visiting Justices have the Power of maintaining strict Regulations in Prisons?

I should say not; the Labour is very onerous to those Justices who happen to live near the Gaols; and those who live very distant cannot be expected to make frequent Visits to them, and therefore the Duties devolve upon a few, and particularly upon those who may live in the Town where the Gaols are situated; and I have seen the unjust Result to Justices of active Minds who were not able to omit doing their Duty: and then there is the Difficulty of getting regular Meetings of the Justices, and, of course, One Justice undertaking to make great Alterations would be considered to take upon himself an invidious Responsibility.

Do you think that the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons would be advisable?

I think very advisable, because they would then be able to ascertain that the Prisons throughout the Country were upon an assimilated Plan. The common Talk of Discipline is very general through the Country, and Men that have been committed to Prison very frequently discuss the comparative Discipline of different Prisons, and say they would rather be in such a Prison than in another; and they discuss the different Modes of Treatment which are reported to be practised, namely, that in one Gaol they allow Meat, and in another Gaol they will not allow any; and consequently that Kind of Comparison is very injurious, and it is desirable that it should be assimilated both as to the Mode of Diet and as to the Mode of Punishment, for Three Months in one Prison may be a more severe Sentence than Six in another; but it is impossible that that can be the Case unless certain Individuals make it their entire Business to visit all the Gaols and Houses of Correction; and perhaps it would be a useful Power to lodge with them to recommend Enlargements of Gaols in Cases where they are too small to furnish a Cell for each Prisoner. The Gaol Act requires, when there is not a Cell for each Prisoner, that there must be Three in a Cell, and that is fatal to all the Discipline which you may wish to keep up in Prisons; it is impossible to keep up Discipline; in Bedford, with all our Anxiety to enforce it, we find it out of the Question so long as the Association at Night shall continue.

In the old House of Correction at Bedford I perceive from a former Return that you have but Four Classes, Four Day-rooms and Four Airing-yards, One Work-yard, and Two Yards for the sick; do you think that that cannot be extended?

It cannot be extended within the present Boundary, as regards the New House, but may as regards the Old, unless the Boundary was increased.

Do you know how the Prisoners are placed in those Classes; are the Males and Females ever placed in the same Class?

No, they are separate.

T. C. Higgins, Esq.

If there is a Male Prisoner committed to Bedford Gaol upon a Charge of Felony is he put in Class No. 1, and if there is one for a Misdemeanor is he put in Class No. 2.?

Yes; all Prisoners committed for Trial are sent to the Gaol, and those committed under the summary Jurisdiction of the Magistrates are sent to the Old or the New House of Correction.

You are aware that there is a Return made annually by the Justices at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions to the Secretary of State. It appears that the Gaoler of Bedford has, in reply to the Twenty-eighth Query, viz., "Whether the Classification required by this Act has been observed? if not, for what Reasons? and what Measures have been taken to remedy this Defect?" stated, "As required to be observed by the Act of the 5th of George IV. Cap. 55;" is he not in error in this Reply?

It is impossible in our Gaol to make the Classification precisely as the Act requires; but I confess I should not wish to see the Classification precisely as the Act requires.

There are but Four Classes in the Bedford Gaol, and it appears that there were in the last Year 318 Persons confined in that Gaol in the course of the Year, and that there were Males as well as Females, therefore it would have been impossible to have classed them according to the Gaol Act?

Impossible.

You say that you have Four Classes, and that you have Male Prisoners as well as Female Prisoners; how are they classed?

The Females form One Class, and the other Three Classes are Males. We have tried lately to cure it by ordering the Washing-house to be used for the Purpose of classifying the Women.

It appears that you have had but Three Females committed to that Prison?

Yes.

How often do you think that the Inspectors should visit the several Prisons?

I say not less than once a Quarter; the more frequent the better, for this Reason, that where there are Meetings periodically taking place you find every thing in excellent Order, but the Question is, how it is when you come unexpectedly; and I and other Justices have occasionally undertaken to visit the Gaols at irregular Times, just to find if the Prisons are in the same Degree of Attention, and I certainly have found a Difference, and I am certain that that will ever be the Case to a certain Degree unless the Governors of the Prisons feel a personal Anxiety and Interest on the Subject of maintaining the Discipline of the Gaols.

What Power would you give the Inspectors?

I should be sorry to give them any Power to order any Rules, excepting those that an Act of Parliament shall point out, and those they should order to be enforced instanter; but where they find other Alterations necessary to meet any particular Case, then I should recommend that they should be submitted to the Visiting Justices, to lay before the Justices at the Quarter Sessions.

Do not you think it is very important that the Persons confined in our Prisons should feel Imprisonment to be a Punishment, and by increasing the Severity of it to be enabled thereby to shorten the Duration?

Of great Importance. I am persuaded that long Imprisonments are injurious to the Individual, and are not efficient with a view to deter from Crime. Where a Man has been used to be immured in a Gaol he becomes callous to his Situation, and the Edge of his Feelings become blunted. I am certain that it is Policy, both as regards the Interests of Society and his own, to sentence to Transportation for a Term of Years rather than to long Imprisonment; but short separate Confinements may be made very useful in enabling the Chaplain to take advantage of the Prisoner's quiet State of Mind, and to impress it with the Importance of Religion; and the Prisoner being apart from Associates he is the less likely to be deterred from receiving a happy Bias by that dangerous Weapon, Ridicule. And even if it were only to enlarge the Field for Religious Instruction, the Association of Criminals ought to be prevented; and in this point

point of view an Encouragement to the Chaplain is afforded to bring about this Change, which he never can produce while they are allowed to congregate together. Even in the Case of sentencing to Transportation it would be a great Charity to decide that the Party shall never leave the Country 'till he shall have been a certain Time in separate Confinement, to enable the Chaplain to use his Endeavours to bring about a Change in his Mind, so that he might leave the Country under the most favourable Circumstances.

Do not you think he would incur great Danger of being contaminated in the Ships that convey the Convicts Abroad?

There, no Doubt, would be some Danger. I think the Management of the Hulks, and the Way in which they are conveyed Abroad, is very shamefully conducted, and unless some Discipline be kept up there the Effect of Gaol Discipline is much impaired; but I think that some great Change should be made there, and that the Chaplain's Endeavours should be rendered as efficient there as in Gaols.

Do you think it proper to permit the Friends of Prisoners to visit them after Conviction?

Very much otherwise; so much so, that we have ventured as Magistrates to disallow them from visiting them; but we have done it under the Conviction that the visiting of Friends made the Punishment a Mockery, from the Intercourse which took place; and there was the Danger of introducing improper Articles into the Gaol; and altogether we found it desirable to prevent the visiting of Friends, except in Cases where the Party is about to leave the Country.

That Observation would not, of course, apply to a Prisoner that was extremely ill in the Prison Infirmary?

Certainly not; because under Danger of Death the Case would be altered, and then it would be a Matter of absolute Humanity and Necessity to allow the Visit of a Friend.

Is there not great Caution required to prevent the Introduction of Tobacco and many other Things into the Prison?

Indeed there is; at Bedford some extraordinary Instances were found of Cunning in introducing Tobacco and Money; in some Instances the Buttons of a Coat were covered with Cloth the same as the Coat, and instead of being the usual Article it was found to be Shillings or Sixpences. I remember an Instance of a Pair of Braces being introduced into the Gaol, and it was found that a great Part of the Braces was composed of Tobacco in Rolls. I once or twice discovered, even since the Rules have been made, the Smell of Tobacco, and the Governor's Attention was called to it; he said, "It is impossible for me to say how it is." And a very short Time ago I was at Aylesbury, and the first Thing that attracted my Attention was the Smell of Tobacco all over that Part where they were working at the Tread-mill; the Turnkey said, "It is very extraordinary, but it has been introduced surreptitiously;" but that is no Excuse; there is some Defect of Vigilance on the Part of the Officers that will allow the Possibility of such an Occurrence, for if any thing be introduced into a Gaol, it should be strictly searched.

Do you think that the System of Classification of Prisoners before Trial can be improved?

I should think it might. A Man may be overtaken suddenly and unawares, and commit a very serious Offence amounting to a Felony, but he may have been a Person of good Moral Character before, and it is rather harsh that it should be declared at once that that Individual was guilty of a greater Crime than one who had been committed for a petty Crime, but who had been frequently guilty of Offences before. I think the Classification now required under the Gaol Act is very inefficient, but that would altogether be got rid of if it were possible to allow each Individual in Gaol to be kept apart: for his own Sake it is very important, if he be innocent; and for the Sake of others, if he is a Man of an abandoned Character, it is very important.

Do you not think that the Practice of detaining Lunatics in the Gaol after Trial is injurious to them and detrimental to the Discipline of the Prison?

Very much so; and it has been found to be very injurious to the Discipline

T. C. Higgins, Esq.

of Bedford Gaol lately: an Individual was charged with the Offence of Rape, and the Jury found him not guilty, on the Ground of Lunacy: there have been no Orders received from His Majesty's Secretary of State upon the Subject, and it requires Two Prisoners to attend to that Man. There ought to be a Power in the Visiting Justices to commit such a Person to the County Asylum, but they have not that Power, and it can only be done by an Order of the Secretary of State.

In the Instance you allude to, has Application been made to the Secretary of State?

We were directing Applications within a very late Period, but having been absent from the County some Time I cannot say what has been done. There was an extraordinary Case at Bedford: a Man of the Name of Hostler, for Horse-stealing, who had no Sentence passed upon him, on the Score of Insanity; but, by some unfortunate Mistake made in the Mode in which the Verdict was given, the Individual got sent back to Gaol, and eventually removed to a Lunatic Asylum, and the Onus was thrown on a particular Parish; that Individual was supposed to be a Man mad beyond the usual Character of Madness, a desperate Madman. After remaining a long Time in the Lunatic Asylum it was reported that he was sane, and he was discharged; he was shortly after brought up for another Offence, and was tried at the last Assizes; he shammed Madness again when taken before the Magistrates, and it is thought possible now that he assumed Madness from the very beginning, and that he succeeded in deceiving a Medical Man and the Magistrates. It was an extraordinary Instance, and it shows what Cautions should be used before a Man should be declared to be insane.

When a Man has been acquitted of Murder on the Ground of Insanity, would it not be very dangerous to permit him to go at large?

It would be very dangerous indeed, and if I were on the Jury I should anxiously hesitate before I found him to be insane; and if sent to the Lunatic Asylum he ought to be kept separate from the other Lunatics; and I believe that the Act requires that in all Cases of that Kind they should be kept separate, but unfortunately there are very few Facilities for that Purpose.

Are you of opinion that Persons committed for Trial should be kept apart from each other in order to prevent Contamination?

Before Trial I should say decidedly; and it can be no Injustice to the Parties themselves, quite the contrary, and it would afford ample Room for the Chaplain's Exertions.

You think it should be separate but not solitary Confinement?

Separate, but should be allowed due Air and Exercise, but not to associate together.

You think they should be separate at Night?

Certainly; the Circumstance of Three associating together is very injurious.

Do not you believe that many of the Houses of Correction in this Country ought, for the Purpose of carrying into effect a perfect Prison Discipline, to be enlarged?

Very much.

Do you think, that, considering the present Agricultural Distress, the Magistrates would feel themselves justified in taxing the Counties to the Extent that would be required for that Purpose?

I am persuaded that almost invariably when it came to the Vote whether such an Application should be made, it would be carried against it, not because the Magistrates do not feel the Necessity of it, but there is a Feeling to save the County Rates as much as possible from these heavy Demands.

Do you think that as the Community at large has a deep Interest that the Discipline in our Prisons should be as perfect as possible, it would be unfair to call upon the Public Purse to furnish Funds for the Purpose of enlarging the Prisons?

It would be very unfair that it should fall upon the Counties separately, and I think it would be essential that the Public Purse should bear the general Burden

137

T. C. Higgins, Esq.

Burden; if it be taken as a Government Measure all Classes that contribute to the Taxes of the State will contribute to it, and as every Member of Society is interested in Prison Discipline, it would be highly unjust that it should fall entirely upon One Branch of it.

Are you of opinion that it would be desirable to establish a Tribunal for the more summary Trial and Punishment of minor Offences and juvenile Offenders?

I feel that very strongly; I have lately considered the Subject a great deal, and with the Permission of the Committee I will offer a few Suggestions which I have written on that Subject. Considering how many Offences are already cognizable by Magistrates by summary Conviction, I can see no Danger likely to threaten the Liberty of the Subject by permitting Justices in Petty Sessions, where there shall be Two present, in open Court, to hear and determine all Larcenies, where the Injury sustained shall not exceed Five Shillings, leaving it to the Discretion of the Justices, in Cases which to them may appear of an aggravated Description, to leave the Matter to the Sessions or Assizes, by committing the Party, or (by a much more desirable Arrangement) by admitting the Party to Bail, where a sufficient Householder will be a Surety, and to order Whipping (when they shall adjudicate) to Youths not exceeding Seventeen Years of Age, with a Term of Imprisonment in solitary Confinement, not exceeding Two Weeks; and to Adults, in Cases in which they shall adjudicate, a Term of Imprisonment to hard Labour, not exceeding Six Months, and perhaps a Power of imposing Fines might in some Instances be desirable. But if this summary Proceeding should be thought an unconstitutional Investment of Authority, without the Concurrence of a Jury, I would beg to submit the following Suggestion: That as by 6 Geo. 4. c. 50. Jury Lists are required to be made by the Churchwardens and Overseers of Parishes once a Year, and to be presented at a Special Sessions to the Justices of Divisions, and which, after being examined and amended, are laid before the Justices in General Quarter Sessions, and of which the Clerk of the Peace is required to make an entire Copy, which is to be delivered to the Sheriff, I would suggest that an Act be passed requiring the Clerks of Petty Sessions to keep a Copy of the Lists pertaining to each Division, and from that to select impartially, in Rotation, Four, Six, or more Names, from as many different Parishes, and to issue a Precept to the Chief Constables of every Hundred in which each Division may be to summon such Persons (a Week's Notice being given to them) to attend, at a Place and Time specified, to serve as Jurymen at Petty Sessions, and which Petty Sessions should not occur more frequently than once a Fortnight; and if any Offences thus cognizable before the Justices and Jury in Petty Sessions shall occur in the intervening Time of each Sessions, that the Justice before whom the Party accused shall be brought shall, if he find sufficient Evidence against him, commit him to Gaol for a final Decision at the ensuing Petty Sessions, or shall admit the Party to Bail until that Period; and the said Justice shall remit his Depositions to the Clerk of the said Petty Sessions; and on the Day of the Petty Sessions, if there shall be no Informations cognizable by a Jury as aforesaid, that the Chairman of the Justices shall discharge the said Jury, and shall make an Order upon the Treasurer to pay to each Juryman the Sum of Five Shillings for his Attendance; (it would not fall to the same Juryman to attend more than once on such an Occasion for many Months, and the small Expense to the Country for their Services would be greatly counterbalanced by great Savings and Advantages;) in the Event of the Non-attendance of a Juryman summoned as aforesaid, if no Certificate of Illness or other reasonable Excuse be adduced to the Satisfaction of the Justices, the Party so neglecting to attend shall be summoned to show Cause, and, failing to satisfy the Justices, shall be fined not exceeding Two Pounds; and where there shall not be a sufficient Number of Jurymen so summoned in Attendance, that a Tales de Circumstantibus be sworn; that the Chairman of Justices in Petty Sessions aforesaid, or their Clerk, shall take full Minutes of the Examination of Witnesses and of the Defence of the Accused, and that the same be delivered at each Quarter Sessions to the Clerk of the Peace for the Inspection of Justices there assembled, or of the Judges of Assize; that Expenses be allowed the Prosecutor and his Witnesses, at the Discretion of the Justices before whom the Party shall be tried.

J. C. Higgins, Esq.

How many should the Jury consist of?
I should say Four.

Do not you think that the Act should enact not less than Three and not more than Five?
I should say so.

Should you see any Objection to give to that Tribunal the Power, when they sentence a Prisoner for a minor Offence, of calling upon him to find Security for his good Conduct for Six Months?
It would be very useful; and in Cases of a Farmer or other Employer having a high Opinion of his Labourer's former Conduct, the best Test which there could be of that would be their coming forward to be his Surety.

Do not you think that the Effect of calling upon those Boys to find Security for their good Behaviour would be, that it would be the direct Interest of their Friends and of their Securities to take care of them and to look after them, so as to prevent them from again being exposed to Temptation?
I think so indeed; it is unfortunately the Case that Parents consider that when their Boys get to a certain Age they have no Control over them. Many Crimes would be prevented if Parents used that just and proper Control which Nature requires. With respect to the Term of Imprisonment, it is very desirable that that should be as short as possible for Boys, and by all means that they should be kept distinct from each other; Two Boys are as different in their Moral Character and in their Moral Feelings as Two Men, and the one is as capable of contaminating as the other.

Is it not now the Practice for Magistrates not to bail for Felony unless they entertain a reasonable Doubt of the Guilt of the Person charged?
They must have a Doubt, or they are obliged to commit.

That is the Manner in which the Law is interpreted?
That is considered to be the Law. If you are morally certain of the Offence you must commit; if there are Grounds for Doubt, Two Justices may take Bail; but unluckily Bail is very rarely taken. I think in many Instances it would be offered by respectable Farmers, who might come forward and say, "That is a Servant of mine, and I would be glad to be bound for him, and he shall go on working for me, as I have hitherto had a good Opinion of him."

What is your Opinion of the Propriety of introducing Trades into our Prisons?
It appears to me objectionable. Punishment ought to be attended with Degradation; and if it be said that a Man, when he get to Gaol, shall be taught some Means of maintaining himself when he leave the Gaol, the Feeling must be, that he is treated almost more favourably in the Gaol than he is out. And with respect to Schools, I doubt whether Schoolmasters should be allowed to have any Intercourse with Prisoners, but that the Chaplain alone should administer to the Spiritual Needs of the Prisoners. Schoolmasters are People of a lower Condition of Life, and they may entertain some Sympathy for, and enter into familiar Intercourse with them, which is not desirable. Education is of immense Importance in early Life, and if it were more general many of the present Inmates of Gaols would not be found there, perhaps; but when a Youth shall be committed to Prison, his Term of Imprisonment ought to be too short for the Services of a Schoolmaster to be available, and therefore the only Effect of the School System is to give the Character of social Comfort to Prisons.

If a Schoolmaster was prohibited from speaking to the Children, except when teaching them in the Classes, would there be any Harm in it?
I think so; and as the Children should be but a very short Time in Gaol, the Schoolmaster's Endeavours would be altogether ineffectual.

Do you think that the Appointment of Monitors, of Wardsmen, and giving certain Prisoners extra Indulgences, is a very bad System?
Very bad indeed; and I think that Governors should not be allowed to employ any Prisoner as a Menial, which is too commonly the Case; one is employed to clean his Shoes, and another to clean his Horse and his Gig, and it is highly

139

J. C. Higgins, Esq.

highly injurious to the good Discipline of the Gaol, and it is very unjust; a Man is ordered to be committed, and to undergo a certain Punishment, and he should be put upon a Level with others who are committed under like Circumstances, and not treated otherwise because he puts on the Appearance of good Conduct all on a sudden.

Do not you think that a Man who leaves a Prison with Intentions to reform experiences but too often the greatest Difficulties in carrying those Intentions into effect?

Indeed I do; he is cast upon the World, and subject to a certain Fear and Execration on the Part of his more respectable Acquaintance, and who consider naturally that he is become contaminated; he is therefore perhaps driven to some desperate Act: and it would be of great Importance, that when a Party is discharged some Means should be taken to get a Friend to employ him, or to take charge of him, or to get him to leave the Country under some Arrangement; any Step but that which is now practised, of sending him adrift entirely upon his own Resources, and sending him at once into the dissipated Circle of his Associates.

Do not you think that the Chaplains ought to devote the whole of their Time to the Prisons?

The whole of their Time, and they should have no other Duties of a Curacy; their Stipend should be very handsome: and wherever it should happen that Confinement apart should be put in Practice, I am persuaded that then the Chaplain would have a most useful Field for turning the Prisoners Minds to their Religious Duties.

Are you aware that in some of the Prisons the Chaplains are prohibited from undertaking any other Duty?

Yes, they are; but I think they are very inadequately paid, with that Proviso.

Have you any Suggestions to make to the Committee?

With the Permission of the Committee I should wish to state several Objections to the Gaol Act. One is an Objection to the 4th of George the 4th, Chapter 64; there is a Part of the Act which enables Justices to employ the Prisoners in menial Offices, which I think is a most improper Discretion, because in no Case when a Man is committed is it possible in the Prison to come to a just Conclusion with respect to his Moral Change. Then with respect to the Classification of Prisoners, I have alluded to that before. With respect to Schools in Prisons, my own Opinion is that they are inefficient for any good Result, and that the Chaplain should be the only Schoolmaster, and that he should direct the Minds of Prisoners to Religious Subjects, instead of teaching the Rudiments of Reading and Writing, for if the Party cannot read, the Time would be too short to teach him. It is contrary to Discipline to allow Prisoners before Trial to find their own Food; the present Act enables Governors to receive Money and to supply them with Food; but if a Man is in the unfortunate Situation of being under Suspicion of Guilt, he of course must submit to certain Privations; and it is hard upon one Man, whose Poverty does not allow him to purchase Luxuries, that another, who may be equally bad, should be able to receive them.

Is it not very likely that a Man who has been plundering in the wholesale will be maintained by his former Associates before Trial, whereas a Man who has only committed a small Offence has no such Associates to furnish him with Money or Luxuries?

Quite so; the Persons who are prepared at the Trial to come and prove an Alibi are probably the very Persons that are supplying him with the Means of living in Luxury. With respect to the Admission of the Friends of a convicted Prisoner I think it is contrary to any thing like Discipline; Turnkeys and Governors and the other Officers cannot be performing their Duty if they are continually attending to Parties coming in; and if the Governor shall be out of the way and the Turnkey be occupied, the Friend may get an Opportunity of conversing with the Prisoner without any Officer being present: and whether the Party be committed before Trial or after Trial I think it ought to be altogether disallowed, except in case of Illness, or in the Case of a

T. C. Higgins, Esq.

Convict about to leave the Country, or of the Party desiring before Trial to consult his Solicitor. Then with respect to the Appointment of Governors to Gaols, I cannot help thinking that it is an inefficient Mode of getting the best Man; it is well known that there may be a Difference of Opinion in large Counties, sometimes Politics may have an Influence upon the Justices, and eventually perhaps the most qualified Person may not be chosen; in fact the real and legal Responsibility attaches to the Sheriff, and he legally is the Appointer, and he is the Party to whom the Surety is given, therefore perhaps it is unreasonable to expect the Sheriff always to defer to the Choice of the Justices; but secondly, it would be very unjust that the Sheriff should have the Power of appointing a Man over whom the Justices ought to have a continual Control. I do think that it is rather a complex Machinery, and not at all satisfactory, and frequently the best Officer may not be elected. I think that the Appointment would be very properly vested in the Lord Lieutenant or in the Visiting Justices, instead of being vested in so many; and the Lord Lieutenant no Doubt would be quite above all Feeling except consulting the Interests of the Public; and I consider that Appointments by One Person are more likely to be judicious than when the Judgment of many is consulted; and I would strongly urge the Expediency of taking away altogether the Responsibility from the Sheriff.

If you exonerate the Sheriff from all Responsibility, upon whom would you cast it?

I should cast it upon the County; and the Gaoler should find Sureties to the Justices. The Sheriff is often a Man of very small Income, and it is a great Tax upon him to fill the Office at all, for under the most economical Arrangements it is a very expensive one.

Do the Visiting Justices of the Bedford Gaol visit that Part of the Prison which is appropriated to the Debtors?

Yes. The Debtors are allowed to smoke and take their own Pastime, but I do think that where a Man is in that Situation he should be subject to certain Restraints as well as others, and that no Person should be allowed to commit any Act by which the Prison Discipline is interfered with.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Lieutenant JOHN SIBLY, R. N., is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Governor of the Brixton House of Correction?
I am.

Is Brixton a Common Gaol?
A House of Correction only.

You have no Prisoners, excepting under Sentence?
No.

How many Prisoners have you at present?
About 260.

Are there many juvenile Offenders?
Generally about Fifty.

Is Brixton under the Jurisdiction of the Magistrates of the County of Surrey?
Yes.

Is Silence enforced as Part of your Prison Discipline?
Not effectual Silence; it is ordered, but I believe there is no Possibility of carrying it into effect under any Regulations whatever.

Have you Divisions upon your Tread-mills?
We have not.

Have you separate Cells for your Prisoners?
We have not a sufficient Number for all.

If

141

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

If there were separate Cells for the Prisoners, and Divisions upon the Tread-mill, do you think it would be impossible to carry into execution the System of Silence?

It would not be impossible, if there were separate Cells, but there would be considerable Difficulty in carrying the combined Systems of hard Labour and Silence into execution.

Are your Prisoners permitted now to speak upon the Tread-mill?

We check them for the first Offence, and if it is repeated we punish them.

In what Way?

By the only Punishment which the Act of Parliament allows, locking them up in a dark Cell, and keeping them on Bread and Water.

It appears by a Return which was made to the Secretary of State at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834, that 2,402 Prisoners were committed to Brixton House of Correction in the course of that Year, and that there were 463 Cases of Punishment for Offences committed within the Prison; can you state generally for what Offences those Punishments were inflicted?

Various Disorders in the Yard; some for Insolence, some for Theft, some for Neglect of Work, and other small Offences of that Description; a large Proportion were Boys.

There was One Man, it appears, placed in Irons?

Yes; that was a Man who was exceedingly refractory; he was in Confinement for a long Time in a dark Cell, but he was put in Irons for making a Noise and bawling out of the Air Pipe; there was no Means of keeping him from the Air Pipe, except by confining him in Irons; he was in Irons for Twenty-four Hours.

What do you mean by the Air Pipe?

We have an Air Pipe in the dark Cells to admit Air without admitting Light.

Do not you think that if you had had separate Cells, and Divisions upon the Tread-mill, you might have been able to have avoided punishing so many Prisoners?

No Doubt of it.

Though you are of opinion that it would be very difficult, without separate Cells, and Divisions upon the Tread-mill, to enforce complete Silence, do not you think that so far as practicable the System of Silence is beneficial?

Most assuredly its Tendency is good; but unless Acquaintance by Sight is prevented, the Preservation of Silence is only a Half Measure.

Do not you think that it would prevent evil-disposed Prisoners from contaminating those who are comparatively innocent?

Yes, it would tend to do so.

Do not you believe that many Prisoners leave the Prisons in this Country much worse than when they were committed?

Most assuredly a Prison is destructive to every casual Offender.

Have not you many Persons committed to you more than once?

We have constantly.

It appears by the Return you made that there were 123 Prisoners that have been committed Once, 55 committed Twice, 52 that have been committed Three Times, and 137 that have been committed Four Times and oftener; does not that in itself show that the present Discipline of the Prisons in this Country does not reform the Offenders?

On the contrary. All hard-labour Discipline being defective in itself, no good can result from it; and if total Silence is preserved, there is still a very great Tendency to Evil inherent in all hard-labour Discipline.

Will you explain what you mean by that?

All bodily Labour must create a great deal of Irritation and Excitement in the Mind; this renders it intractable, and destroys Reflection. The Prisoner sentenced to hard Labour must be excused on account of Health; therefore Prisoners daily wait upon the Surgeon, and make Excuses in order to be relieved from Labour, and they support those Excuses by a Thousand Falsehoods; sometimes

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

sometimes by self Abuse, and, among the Female Sex particularly, by degrading Practices, which cannot be described, so that the very worst Impulses of our Nature are called into exercise instead of suppressed.

In your Opinion, then, solitary Confinement is the only effectual Punishment?
Yes, that is the only Thing; and unless solitary Confinement is adopted, never, never, can any good be done.

Are there many Women in Brixton House of Correction?
A great many; we have Fifty upon the Average.

Of what Description of Persons?
By far the greatest Number disorderly.

Can you state any Instances where solitary Confinement has produced good Effects?
My Situation as Governor of the Prison does not enable me to know what the Effect may be after the Prisoner is discharged; but when a Prisoner is placed in solitary Confinement he certainly is in the right Way for Good. Every Prisoner that has been in my Custody has soon become tranquil, and is found in the right Road for Reformation, and open to good Impressions.

Would you propose to have short Terms of solitary Confinement instead of long Terms of Imprisonment with hard Labour?
Certainly.

Is there a Schoolmaster at Brixton?
One of the Turnkeys acts as Schoolmaster, and the Matron for the Women.

Have you any Prisoners employed in Places of Trust, such as Wardsmen and Monitors?
We have.

Do you think that a good System?
A very bad one indeed.

Is not the Wardsman or Monitor often selected because he is the cleverest Man, and not because he bears the best Character?
Of course we endeavour to use as much Discretion as possible; but the intelligent and the clever, who are of course most likely to be the greatest Criminals, are constantly placed over the others.

Have you a great many Soldiers sent to you?
We constantly have.

Are they sentenced by Court-martial to solitary Confinement?
Some are.

For how long?
We had one Man Six Months; but at the Time we had not the Means of keeping solitary Confinement so strictly as it ought to be kept.

Did the Man complain of it?
No; he did once, I think, but I believe it was merely as an Inducement to me to relax his Punishment, and put him into another Cell.

How many Soldiers have you had at One Time?
We have had nearly Fifty.

Are they in general orderly?
No, they are the most troublesome Prisoners we have of the Men; they presume upon their bodily Strength.

Are they able to communicate with each other?
They are.

Do you think that any Man could bear strict solitary Confinement, without injuring his Mind, for Six Months?
Solitary Confinement, to be carried into execution, cannot be exactly strict. If all Idea of Reformation is not given up, the Man must be visited by the Chaplain and when sick he must be visited by the Surgeon. The Governor of

143

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

the Prison ought to see the Prisoners occasionally, and their Bedding must be taken out of their Cells to prevent them from wallowing all Day. Under these modifying Circumstances I consider that Six Months may be given very well and endured very well.

Have you any Suggestions to offer to the Committee as to any Change in the present System of Discipline in our Prisons?

The only Change that can be made is by Separation or a modified solitary Confinement. I have drawn up a few Observations in Two Papers, one of which I hold in my Hand, the Object of which is to illustrate the Silence System, which I am quite convinced cannot be effectually carried into execution Day and Night; that is, it cannot be such Silence as will produce Reform, unless it is accompanied by Separation. The other Paper contains Twenty Reasons for adopting solitary Confinement in preference to hard-labour Punishment. I have another Paper here which enlarges upon each of those Twenty Reasons.

Will you deliver them in?

The Witness delivers in the same, which are read, and are as follow:

"My Lords, Brixton House of Correction, 29th April 1835.

"Being summoned before your Lordships to be examined on Prison Discipline, I am induced most respectfully to offer the following Observations on the 'silent System' now coming into operation in most Prisons.

"No Persons can be more sensible than the Governors of Prisons how much the Laxity of the present Laws has tended to repress their Efforts, and to render the Establishments under their Superintendence Places of Contamination and Disorder rather than Reformation; nor has it been until lately that hard-labour Discipline, from which such signal Advantages were expected, has been confessed to have totally failed: other Means have therefore been suggested as Assistants to hard Labour, and none appears to receive more general Approbation than the Preservation of strict Silence.

"The *Tendency* of the silent System must immediately be seen to be excellent; but the following Remarks, to which your Lordships Attention is respectfully invited, are intended to show that there are insurmountable Difficulties in carrying it into execution, and that under the best Officers and under the best Regulations strict Silence cannot be perfectly preserved when coupled with hard Labour; that its Excellence is completely over-rated when unaccompanied with Separation, and the Hope of effecting important good by it, a mere Delusion.

"It will be readily allowed, that if Conversation goes on at all, if it is not suppressed to the very Letter, it matters little, so far as Contamination or the great End of Punishment (I mean Reformation) is concerned, whether it is carried on aloud or in Whispers, since all that is then effected is the Prevention of Disorder only; and if Prisoners can communicate by Signs or Looks, they might nearly as well be permitted to do so without Restraint, inasmuch as the watching for Times and Opportunities drives away Reflection, furnishes Employment and Amusement, and thereby alleviates almost all the Irksomeness of Confinement and Discipline.

"It is in some Prisons endeavoured to preserve this Silence by means of Monitors or Officers selected from among the Prisoners themselves to assist the Turnkeys, but in this Case what becomes of the Punishment of the Monitors? they are Prisoners, yet they are placed in responsible Situations, have Commands, are excused from other Labour, are allowed additional Food, &c. &c. Can they be said to be punished? No. The Circumstance of being placed in a Situation calculated to excite Envy (such is Human Nature) in the Minds of those by whom they are surrounded is alone amply sufficient to destroy every thing like Reflection, and consequently is not calculated to advance Reformation, or leave a Dread of a Prison on the Minds of Prisoners after they are discharged.

"Good Monitors may perhaps be obtained, and by the several Inducements above mentioned *some* will discharge their Duty effectually; but others, perhaps, having Friends and Acquaintances in the Class, will not, but will rather,

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

after having learned the Habits of the Turnkeys, combine to deceive them on all Occasions. Leaving this, however, out of the Question, I would ask, is the System good? Is it right, is it proper, for one Prisoner, who probably is the most criminal of the whole, (since it is the intelligent and acute that will be most likely to obtain these Situations,) to be relieved from the Punishment due to his Offences, at the Discretion or by the Recommendation of a Turnkey, (for it is impossible for the Governor to have sufficient Knowledge to select,) and to be placed in Command of others, and allowed Indulgences which they are denied?

"Can your Lordships believe there is any Possibility of wholly preventing Conversation while Prisoners, who have perhaps been acquainted before their Arrival in Prison, are allowed to be together all the Twenty-four Hours; while they are permitted to become acquainted by Sight during the Day, to work together, take their Meals together, and afterwards to be shut up together during the Night?

"I must not conceal from your Lordships that a Prison has sometimes a very different Appearance from that which it presents in the Middle of the Day. When Noble Lords visit a Place of this Description it is probably at those Periods when the Discipline is in full Operation, when the Officers are all at their Posts, and the Tread-wheel is revolving without a Whisper, or manual Labour is going on with every Appearance of Gravity; then, indeed, there is *some Appearance* of Discipline. The numerous Prisoners engaged in other Employments are perhaps not seen, and the Presence of Strangers excites extra Diligence in the inferior Officers.

"But to give an Idea of the Contamination and Disorder inseparable from a Prison under the present Law, it should *not* be seen at its best, but at its worst. A Prison seen at its best affords no Idea of Contamination; Contamination is then at rest. But a Gaol should be seen in the Morning, at unlocking and washing, at Meals, at locking-up, and through the Night; its Recesses should be explored, and the various Prisoners not immediately under Surveillance should be seen—the Hospitals, the Gardens, the Wardsmen, the Washhouse, the Laundry, the many Women with Children; the Prisoners should be accompanied in their various Removals from one Part of the Prison to another; it is then and there that idle Conversation and Wickedness are going on.

"In the Morning, for instance, when the Prisoners are unlocked and are to be set to work, it is necessary that the Business of washing should be expeditiously performed; they must therefore congregate round the Water-troughs; and amongst a Crowd of Fifty Prisoners thus busily engaged, requiring Exchange of Soap, Towels, Combs, &c., I leave to your Lordships to consider if it is possible to preserve strict Order and Silence. At Meals also, however well managed, some Disputes and Conversation will arise, unless the Spirit of the Law be essentially violated. The Law contemplates that the Prisoner shall be satisfied respecting his Allowance, and commands that the Scales and Weights shall be open to him. Suppose he disputes, how is he to be satisfied, except by the Officer leaving his Class to the Monitor, and accompanying the Prisoner to the Place where the Scales and Weights are deposited; and although all this may be done without the Disorder arising to such Height as to induce Punishment, still the 'silent System' will be destroyed, and the Conversation will be sufficient to alleviate the Irksomeness of Confinement considerably. In arranging the Prisoners for Work, as well as in its Performance, Instruction more or less will be required, without which the Work cannot go on; and in a Multitude of Cases, either evidently contemplated or directly sanctioned by the Law, Questions will be asked and must be answered. All this will break the perfect Silence and Order that is pretended to be preserved even among those Prisoners who work at the regular Labour, and who therefore are the most constantly under Inspection.

"A great Proof that hard-labour Discipline and the 'silent System' are in a great measure incompatible with each other, is afforded by the Fact, that in the Prisons with which I am acquainted, where Silence is best preserved, not only must some Portion of the Time devoted to Labour be occupied by *its* Details, but the hard Labour is reduced to little more than Exercise; thus, one Kind of Discipline is merely substituted for another, and the Excitement produced by Labour is lessened, that Silence may be the better preserved.

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1145

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

"It may be inferred from the above Paragraph, that the Prisoners *who work* are almost constantly under the Officer's Eye, which your Lordships will see is requisite to preserve the silent System in Perfection. This is also a Mistake of the greatest Consequence. The Officers of a Prison have each in their Department many Duties which are absolutely necessary to be performed, and which must take them to different Places, distant sometimes from a Part or perhaps the Whole of their Charge, and frequently from the Inspection of the greater Number. In receiving Prisoners into and discharging them from his Class, his Attention is considerably diverted from the Labour. He has, besides this, to examine his Cells daily; to attend to the sick who may be in them; to arrange the Bedding for the ever-varying Number under his Charge; the Prisoners Clothes and their weekly as well as occasional Changes; to attend such Prisoners as may require to visit the Surgeon; and to see the Surgeon's Directions carried into effect respecting them. These are considerable Duties, and there are some others which I suppose must be nearly the same in all Prisons. Besides this, the Officer has to attend to his own personal Wants, to which some small Portion of Time must be devoted if he is employed during the whole of the Day. In every one of these Absences the silent System must suffer even among those who work.

"Prisoners in the Hospitals, the Wardsmen, those employed in the Gardens (if any), the Tailors and Shoemakers, and various other Prisoners, are in a great measure, I believe, in all Prisons, not only left to themselves as respects Conversation, but many are by their Situations so circumstanced as to be enabled to carry on much Mischief unobserved; indeed, it is by means of these that a great many of the Infractions of the Rules take place. The numerous Women also who are incapacitated from Labour, and are therefore employed in the Wash-house and Laundry, or in Needlework in their Classes, as well as the Women with Infants in Arms, some of whom are in each Class, and being in so many different Places, cannot be overlooked without a great Number of Officers. It may be safely left to the Imagination to conceive the Restriction that would be necessary to preserve Silence among them, more especially as many cannot be punished.

"But it is at Night that Conversation is principally carried on, and however it may be pretended to be prevented, I feel assured I can easily convince your Lordships that it is impossible, from the Nature of Things, without such an Establishment of Officers as to render it absolutely burdensome, and not completely even then.

"There are Two Ways in which Prisoners may be lodged together at Night. I shall notice each separately. 1st. If Male Prisoners be confined Three in a Cell, according to the Act, or if Women be confined Two together, with Turnkeys in the Galleries through the Night, I would ask is that Regulation sufficient to prevent Conversation from being carried on in a low Tone of Voice or in Whispers? I am sure your Lordships will see that it is not. If talking be heard, can the Watchman, in the Darkness of the Night, distinguish the Individual, or can he punish all Three? But is it not absurd to place Three Persons in such a Situation of Temptation, and then to inflict Punishment for an Offence which such inadequate Means are taken to prevent? And if Silence be preserved, is not the Companionship alone quite sufficient to relieve almost all the Irksomeness of Confinement? 2d. But suppose, according to the new Method, the Prisoners are arranged in Sleeping-rooms, each over each other by the Walls, or Side by Side on the Floors, and a Turnkey is constantly kept walking through the Night. I would submit that it is impossible for this Regulation to be effectual even if there be Three Officers to watch each Department. The Rooms must be lighted all Night throughout the Year, at some Expence; the Prisoners, being acquainted before their Arrival in Prison, or by being together during the Day, will be anxious for verbal Communication; they will have the same, or indeed better Means to elude the Officer than he has to *detect them;* they will watch each Turn he takes in walking, and when his Back is towards them; the Employment will be Amusement to *them;* they will be wakeful from a low Diet, while the well-fed Officer, who indulges his Porter, and, perhaps, his Pipe, will be drowsy. The Question therefore is, how many under these Circumstances can be effectually watched?

"I think it will be allowed that Eight Bedsteads, or about Fifty Feet in

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Length, is as much as can be tolerably inspected in a well-lighted Room; if these Bedsteads are Three Stories high, and both Sides of the Room be fitted up (which will not be practicable in many Places), it will contain Forty-eight Beds. Now, if the same Three Officers who relieve each other in the Night continue the Duty in the Day (which in this Case they should do) 240 Prisoners will require Fifteen Turnkeys, which is nearly Double the Number employed at present. But with this Regulation I am quite convinced that the Surveillance will still be short of Perfection, even as far as sleeping is concerned; the Number of Prisoners will confuse the Officer; *they* being in Boxes, and partially hid, the Chance is all in their Favour; whispering would still go on, nor could the Officer detect the Offender with sufficient Certainty to visit him with Punishment; the Officer's Perplexity would be the Prisoner's Amusement, Reflection would be destroyed, and Reformation retarded instead of advanced.

"It must also be recollected that Female Watchers will be required for the Women's Department, and that a greater Number of Female Officers will be necessary in proportion to the Number of Prisoners than for the Males; and that the Fifteen Turnkeys above mentioned for 240 Prisoners, being Three Reliefs, will only afford Five at One Time, which Number will be quite inadequate to carry on the Labour and the various Duties of the Day; other Day Turnkeys must therefore be added: and taking into consideration the different Description of the Prisons which may preclude the most advantageous Arrangement, it may be safely stated that Double the Number of Officers will be requisite; and still, as I have shown, the 'silent System' will be ineffectual and imperfect.

"I do not know that any Prison has regular Reliefs of Officers Day and Night, or of the greatest Part of them; without which I cannot consider it possible that even Pretensions can justly be made to the Preservation of effectual Silence. Surely, the slightest Reflection will convince your Lordships that while Prisoners of either Sex are allowed to congregate in their Classes, to visit so many different and distant Parts or Places in a Prison, viz., Chapel, Wheels, Work-rooms, Day-rooms, Store-rooms, Hospital, Gardens, Laundry, Wash-house, Privy, Sleeping-rooms or Cells, &c. &c., either altogether or in small Numbers, that the perfect Execution of this Regulation by Day or by Night is nearly an Impossibility. I will take as an Instance the Females of this Establishment: we have Three Female Officers (Two Turnkeys and a Matron), and we have on the Average Fifty Prisoners, although they sometimes amount to Seventy. The Number of Prisoners is not of so much Consequence as the Number of different and perhaps distant Places they will be in; from Twenty to Twenty-five will be at the *Three Wheels*, Eight will be in the Wash-house and Laundry, some will be in each of *the Three* Day-rooms, in the Receiving-room, in the Hospital, and some sick will be in their Cells, where the Wardswomen will be cleaning. Thus it will be seen that the Women under the Care of Three Officers are at the same Moment in at least Fifteen different Places continually.

"There are many other Things to be mentioned which will place this Impossibility in a still stronger Light, among which I will notice the Difficulty of finding inferior Officers possessing sufficient Energy and Activity to execute the Duty of preserving Silence under such Circumstances. Even Sentinels, with all the Rigour of Martial Law hanging over their Heads, will sometimes be found negligent; but in a Service requiring extraordinary and constant Alacrity, such as preventing and catching even a Whisper, and while little Punishment can be inflicted on the Offender, since the Turnkey's Wages are not large, can or shall we be surprised if a Duty so delicate and so arduous be frequently slurred over, and amidst the Languor and Listlessness of Night-watching remain unperformed? Can it be expected that Turnkeys, under the Difficulties of such Situations, will continue so restlessly alive to their Duty through the whole dreary Night as to be perpetually perplexing themselves for an Object the Value of which they will not appreciate, and to resist in themselves the constant Temptations which beset them to allow small Infractions of the Regulation to pass over without Notice? Can the Women Watchers be expected to remain through the livelong Night patient yet active and silent Spectators of their sleeping Charge, or will they by Possibility be able to preserve Silence among them when awake? No. The Difficulty of finding Officers will be almost insuperable among Men, but quite so among Women.

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1147

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

"But if it was possible to carry this silent System into effectual Operation, it remains to be asked whether the Object attained is proportionate to the Means employed, and whether the same End could not be attained easier. I have shown that considerable Expense in Wages must be incurred; a complicated System of Discipline is erected; the most irksome and unremitting Attention is necessary to administer it; many Officers are required; Inducement is held out to the Prisoner to offend; the constant Temptation to do so is set before his Eyes, and much Punishment is necessary to repress it. And I will mention here that in those Prisons which pretend to preserve Silence, Punishments are resorted to which are not sanctioned by Law. What, I would ask, is effected after all? The Preservation of Silence is only a Half Measure at the most. Acquaintance by Sight is permitted, and is an Evil similar in its Nature, and only less in Degree, than Acquaintance by Speech, since the former will induce Recognition among discharged Prisoners nearly as soon as the latter. Companionship is conceded by Night as well as by Day, which is of itself sufficient to relieve almost all the Tediousness of Confinement, and is by the new Method of sleeping become a general Comfort, which was only partial before; and these Monitors are even encouraged to return to Prison instead of being terrified from it.

"What Contradictions does this System of hard Labour and Silence involve? Duty to be well performed should be natural, that is to say, it should be so arranged that the Superior's Part should if possible be easier than the Inferior's; but here it is the reverse. Wages may induce Persons to take Situations, and render them reluctant to give them up, but will produce little more than Eye-service when the Arrangement is so irksome and contrary to the natural Order of Things.

"In the Administration of this System, the most zealous, constant, active, and even painful Attention is demanded of the Officers, while the Prisoners are merely checked so much as to prevent Disorder, worked so much as just to entitle it to the Name of Labour, and no more, during the Day, and can recline in comfortable Ease through the Night. Their Minds are relieved from many of the common Cares of Life, their temporary Wants are provided for, and their Food is cooked and placed in their Hands. The mental Quietude thus afforded must be considered as balancing fully, in by far the greater Number, the little Restraint they suffer, and, therefore, scarcely any additional Punishment can be said to be inflicted by their being sent to Prison.

"Again, Prisoners confined together are tempted to transgress, and then punished for yielding to Temptation. Surely it would be much more reasonable to withdraw the Inducement. On the contrary, how straightforward, how effectual, how simple, is modified solitary Confinement; the Officer's Duty is plain, requiring only a reasonable Degree of Attention, and therefore is likely to be well performed. The Prisoners not having the Temptation before them, and not being acquainted with their Neighbours, will have little Inducement to offend, and will therefore require but little additional Punishment. They *cannot* hold Conversation unless it be in a Tone sufficient to attract the Notice of the most sluggish Watchman. Their Minds, therefore, soon become tranquil, as we have seen in every Instance before, and they are at once placed and kept in the right Road to Reformation.

"As this Paper is merely intended to illustrate the 'silent System,' I have not particularly dwelt upon the Inefficacy of hard-labour Discipline generally; of the Excitement, the Irritability, the Vice, the Contamination, the Partiality, the Laxity, the Expense, the Impossibility of Reformation, &c. &c. &c. inherent in it; nor have I enumerated the many Points and Considerations which give *modified* solitary Confinement (your Lordships will please to observe that I say *modified*) the Preference over every other Description of Punishment. I have, however, enlarged on these in a Paper of some Length, which I shall feel highly honoured in being permitted to read to your Lordships, or to lay before your Lordships in any other Way you may be pleased to command.

"Should this Idea of modified solitary Confinement be entertained, nothing can be easier than to make an Experiment for a short Time. A Prison should be built to contain, say about Forty Prisoners. Let the Sentences of the Courts be given in these Terms, 'You are hereby sentenced to hard Labour,' estimated as at present in hard-labour Time, 'or to solitary Confinement,'

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

finement,' according to a determined Scale. Let such Prisoners be selected, if possible, as have undergone hard Labour before, and let themselves be the Witnesses and partially the Judges of the Efficacy of the Punishment. The Cost would not, I should think, be more than 5,000*l.*

"So confident am I of the Utility of this Principle, so highly do I estimate its Advantages, so perfect is my Conviction of the Result of an Experiment, and so great is the Interest I take in it, that should the Legislature be pleased to command a Trial to be made I hereby solemnly offer myself to conduct and superintend it as Governor for Two or Three Years without Salary, which shall be left to the Consideration of Parliament after Trial.

"I have the Honour to be,
"My Lords,
"Your Lordships most humble and
"obedient Servant,
"JOHN SIBLY, Lieut. R.N."

"My Lords, Brixton House of Correction, 29th April 1835.

"In the accompanying Paper I have endeavoured to show the Impossibility of preserving strict Silence while Prisoners are permitted to be at large through the Day and are confined together at Night. I have now the Honour to submit to your Lordships, that *modified* solitary Confinement is the only Mode of Punishment that ever can be productive of general Good.

"From Three Years Experience as Governor of this Establishment, and from much Reflection on the Nature, the Practicability, and Effect of Punishment, I feel the most perfect Conviction that every other Kind or System of Prison Discipline must be on the whole either ineffectual or injurious, as well as most unnecessarily expensive.

"My Reasons for this Opinion are briefly these:

"1st. That hard-labour Punishment, and especially Tread-wheel Labour, contains in itself a counteracting Principle to Reformation, on account of its bodily Excitement, its mental Irritation, its Irregularity and partial Operation.

"2d. Or any other Kind of Labour, since all Labour *must* afford much Scope for Deception, *must* give way to medical Excuses, and *must* require or admit of some Communication.

"3d. That there is no Possibility of wholly preventing Contamination while Prisoners are allowed to be at large during the Day and shut up together during the Night, since, under the best Regulations, the various Duties of the Officers and the various Employments of the Prisoners will prevent them from being all constantly overlooked.

"4th. The Excitement produced by hard Labour (especially Tread-wheel Labour) renders the Mind intractable to Instruction, and reckless, consequently in an unfit State for Improvement.

"5th. That hard Labour holds out the strongest Inducement to Vice, by affording Scope for Deceptions relative to Health, which must be and are continually accompanied by a Thousand Falsehoods, and among Females by many bad Practices.

"6th. That Companionship or Acquaintance is the greatest Alleviation to Punishment, wholly preventing Reflection and Reformation.

"7th. That Acquaintance by Sight is also an Evil, similar in its Nature and less only in Degree than Acquaintance by Speech, since the former will induce Recognition among discharged Prisoners nearly as much as the latter.

"8th. That the long Confinements required by the lenient Nature of hard-labour Punishment are ineffectual, as the few Prisoners undergoing protracted Confinement get in some Measure reconciled to their Situation, which Feeling is assisted by their generally obtaining some Place or Employment in the Prison, where the Sense of Punishment is almost wholly lost.

"9th. That, on the other hand, the short Confinements of Seven and Ten Days can hardly be said to be any Punishment at all.

"10th.

149

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

" 10th. That hard-labour Punishment, with a restricted Diet, as at present, makes bodily Punishment the *primary*, and mental Punishment the *secondary* Consideration; whereas it should be the Reverse.

" 11th. That hard Labour, and especially Tread-wheel Labour, is very expensive, requiring costly Machinery and constant Superintendence and Repairs, many Officers to preserve any thing like Discipline, long Confinement to inflict the necessary Amount of Punishment, and that much additional Punishment is required to suppress the Disorder arising in Prison.

" 12th. That solitary Confinement is the Reverse of all this, it is powerful in its Operation without being violent, renders the Mind tranquil, and consequently open to good Impressions, induces Reflection, and wholly prevents that overwhelming Evil—Prison Contamination, affords little or no opening for Deception and Vice, is much less expensive, requiring fewer Officers and shorter Confinements.

" 13th. That solitary Confinement may be easily modified, without impairing its Utility, by Books, by some simple Employment, by Visits from the Officers of the Prison, by short Exercise in the open Air, &c. &c.

" 14th. That it may be adopted with perfect Safety, with common Care.

" 15th. That it must be the most general of all Punishments, there being very few Cases that would require Interference with the Sentence.

" 16th. That very little additional Punishment would in all Probability be required.

" 17th. That it should be inflicted before Trial as well as after, as the Case only admits of Two Distinctions, viz., Contamination or Separation. If the Prisoner on Trial is found 'Not guilty,' he is discharged uninjured or perhaps amended; if, on the contrary, he is found 'Guilty,' his previous Confinement can be taken into consideration in his Sentence.

" 18th. That the Operation of the present Law is Lenity and Mercy to the hardened and abandoned Culprit; while it presses with Tenfold Severity on the casual Offender, and indeed tends irresistibly to destroy him.

" 19th. That solitary Confinement or mental Punishment is the most simple, and only natural and proper Mode of punishing a rational Being.

" 20th. That all Systems of Prison Dicipline are merely Approximations to it.

" I have elsewhere pointed out the Imperfections of the 'silent System,' and the Contradictions involved in it, the Difficulty of finding inferior Officers, the complicated and perplexing Description of the Duties, the moral Certainty of their being badly performed, the unnatural Arrangement of it altogether.

" On the contrary how straightforward, how effectual, how simple, is modified solitary Confinement. The Officers Duty is plain, requiring only a reasonable Degree of Attention, and therefore is likely to be well performed. The Prisoners having no Temptation before them, and not knowing their Neighbours, have little Inducement to offend, and therefore will require little additional Punishment; they *cannot* hold Conversation unless it be in a Tone of Voice sufficient to attract the Notice of the most sluggish Watchman; their Minds therefore soon become tranquil, as we have seen in *every instance* before, and they are at once placed and kept in the right Road to Reformation.

" I have only to repeat my perfect Conviction as to the Success of an Experiment, and the Offer I have made elsewhere to superintend an Establishment for Two or Three Years without Salary.

" I have the Honour to be,
" My Lords,
" Your Lordships most obedient and
" humble Servant,
" JOHN SIBLY, Lieut. R.N."

" We cannot reflect, without Surprise and Humiliation, that Great Britain, the Mistress of Laws, Arts, and Arms, should feel herself under the Necessity of examining, with a view to copy, the Institutions of any other People; that

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

a Nation which stands confessedly in the foremost Rank of modern Civilization, a Nation so celebrated for Philanthropy and manly Feeling, should suffer the Canker of Prejudice to destroy the Vigour of her Laws, and to impede the Administration of Justice; while her Offspring, in the Freshness of Youth and Strength, is permitted to take the Lead, and point out the Path to the decrepit Parent, as if the Mental, like the Vegetable Kingdom, improved by Removal to another Soil.

" As the Principles to be kept in view in the Formation of a Criminal Code should be the same in all Countries, the peculiar Circumstances of a Nation must be disregarded as to Expense; nothing therefore is necessary but that the Legislator shall think for himself, with a Heart open to the Dictates of Humanity, and a Mind stedfastly fixed on the true End of Punishment, which is Reformation.

" That our Prisons were formerly disgracefully neglected is probably quite true; many were in the Hands of Men who were perhaps vicious themselves, and who therefore could not be expected to attend to the Moral Improvement of their unfortunate Charge, to set a good Example by their own Conduct, or the Prisons were by far too confined for the Number of unhappy Wretches who were constantly thrust into them; and it may reasonably be feared, that not only Neglect, but petty Cruelty and Violence, were not unfrequently practised towards Prisoners who were unwilling to pay for Comforts, or too humble to command Attention and Redress; while the richer Villain could indulge in all Sorts of riotous Debauchery uncontrolled. But I believe most thinking Men who are acquainted with the Subject will agree that Public Opinion, and after it the Law, has gone quite as much on the opposite Side,—that a timorous Feeling, miscalled Humanity, has usurped the Seat of sound Judgment and wholesome Rigour, and that the Ease, Comfort, and Care of a Prison is rather an Inducement to the Commission of Crime than a Warning to deter.

" From the degraded State of Wretchedness, Idleness, and Vice which it is feared were but too common to our Gaols, the Change to hard Labour was a great and decided Improvement; it immediately produced some Degree of Order and Regularity, and by employing some Part of the Prisoners Time, it prevented, or at least diverted, the Current of Evil; but at the same Time this Regularity, this Order, and Cleanliness have produced Ameliorations and Comforts which too strongly tend to destroy the Ends of Discipline, and increase the Mischief it was intended to prevent.

" The great and overwhelming Evil of Prisons is well known to be the Contamination of Offenders, young and old; even the most expert and wicked of their Class cannot enter a Prison without being still further initiated into the Mysteries of Crime, while the young, the timid, and the Novice immediately become hardened and reckless from the Example of their infamous Associates. It is most strange that the Magnitude of this Evil has been acknowledged so long and so universally, that it has almost become a By-word, uttered without producing Emotion, or else a Feeling of Despair, as if the Mischief was felt to be irremediable, and that Thousands who complain of any thing like Severity in our Prisons feel little or no Compunction in submitting a young Offender to their Influence. The Legislature also has so feebly endeavoured to meet this enormous Evil by what is called 'Classification,' that the Attempt can only excite a Smile in any one who will take the Trouble to think on the Subject. Supposing any Class to be ever so well formed, supposing it possible for the Individuals composing it to have committed only One Species of Crime, will not their Proficiency be as various as the Individuals themselves? and will not the placing a young Offender in it be exactly like putting a young Apprentice in a Manufactory among other Apprentices and Workmen, some of whom will be first-rate Hands? and will it not be placing him precisely in that Branch which the young Tradesman has chosen for himself, which he is therefore likely to learn with Avidity, and in which he is likely to be most expert.

" The Act of Parliament, in mentioning Classification, directs that in all Houses of Correction the Prisoners shall be divided, at least, into Three Classes for Males, and Two for Females (besides those which are directed to be appropriated to Prisoners committed for Trial, who are ordered to be put into other Classes). This is the Measure taken to prevent Contamination. For the Males it is enacted, that the First and Second Classes shall contain convicted Prisoners, who are ordered to be placed in either of the Two that the Visiting Justices

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

shall direct, &c. Now these Two Classes, I apprehend, are intended to contain all Descriptions of Offenders, except such as are committed under the Vagrant Act, there being only One more Class which is directed for 'Vagrants.' In these Two Classes, therefore, are to be assembled Pick-pockets, Housebreakers, Coiners and Distributors of Counterfeit Money, Persons convicted of Assaults, of Poaching, of Assaults with Intent to commit, &c. &c. &c., of Bastardy, of Pawning, of wilful Damage, and, lastly, Soldiers sentenced to hard Labour for Military Offences, and young Apprentices for Misconduct in the Service of their Masters. Let one of these Descriptions of Crime be examined, Housebreakers, for instance, and it will immediately be seen that it is an Occupation full of Variety, and may be subdivided into Branches almost without Number; no Two Persons can meet who have practised this Species of Crime without mutually instructing each other. Several of the other Denominations will be found similar; and can any thing be imagined more ridiculous than the Attempt to destroy the Spread of evil Communication by such a flimsy Check as this?

"The Third Male Class is equally inefficient, since all Sorts of Offenders whose Crimes cannot be clearly brought home to them, indeed the greatest Part of those mentioned above, are frequently committed to Prison under the comprehensive Denomination of 'Rogues and Vagabonds.' Idle Boys, who lurk about watching Opportunities to rob Shops, form a large Proportion of this Class in the Metropolitan Prisons, and Beggars or Trampers, who have frequently large Families. This committing Vagrants with numerous Children to Houses of Correction, where they are well taken care of, is highly prejudicial to Society, as the Children never lose the Impressions which they have imbibed in Infancy, and a Prison is any thing but a Terror to them through Life. An Instance of this occurred a few Days since, when a Woman with Two Children was committed here, and arrived just before Dinner; the eldest Child, who no Doubt was previously under some Feelings of Dread, exclaimed in Surprise, 'Would you believe it, Mother, here is Bread, and Meat, and Potatoes too?'

"For Females the Law is still more imperfect, as it requires only Two Classes, the Vagrants being directed to be placed with the convicted Prisoners in either of the Classes which the Visiting Justices shall think fit. Thus, to Felons, Utterers of bad Money, Persons convicted of wilful Damage, of Pawning, of Bastardy, &c. &c., is added Beggars or Trampers, (with a great many young Children, who, of course, are mostly kept with the Mother,) and disorderly Prostitutes of the most abandoned Character. Therefore, in addition to the Evils described as incidental to the Males, if a Female has any remains of Modesty or virtuous Feeling, it is sure to be obliterated by the Associations of a Prison.

"It is true that in most Prisons of any Size these Classes are extended to Four or Five for each Sex. This, however, diminishes the Evil but very little; and it may be mentioned that many Prisoners return to Prison for different Offences, and thus are sent first to one Class and then to another. Besides, there are several Duties performed daily by Prisoners in all Prisons, in which the Classification is of Necessity wholly disregarded; for instance, Women having any slight Affliction or Ailment which incapacitates them from the Tread-wheel are sent to work in the Laundry and Wash-house. In this Situation Classification is out of the Question, as a sufficient Number of Washers cannot be obtained from one Class without taking the few Females who are in a Condition to work on the Wheel, and without keeping several Women in the other Classes idle. Men also, who are ruptured or lame, &c., are employed in the Gardens and various other Employments, which must be done without regard to the Classification.

"I have said that sentencing Prisoners to hard Labour was a great and manifest Improvement. Indeed, it must readily be seen that Employment which occupies the Body or Mind ever so little must be an Improvement over a Condition that reduced the Prisoners to resort to Mischief in order to avoid Ennui; and an additional Check is coming into operation in most Prisons, which has been neglected until very lately, viz. the Preservation of Silence while at work. This is an excellent Regulation, as tending to repress idle and vicious Conversation, and should not for a Moment be lost sight of. It must not however be over-rated; the Difficulty of reducing it to Practice presents an insurmountable Barrier to its Perfection while Acquaintance is permitted by Sight; and however

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

excellent the Rules of any Prison may be, and however strictly enforced, I feel fully convinced that no conscientious Man will for a Moment affirm that any Prisoner was ever confined for a Month to hard Labour who had not abundant Opportunity to learn Ten Times as much as he probably did learn.

" Visiting a Prison in the Middle of the Day, when the Rules and Regulations for carrying on the Discipline are in full Operation, when the Tread-wheel is silently revolving without a Whisper, or when manual Labour is performing with the utmost apparent Gravity, will present a very different Aspect from the State of the same Prison at unlocking in the Morning, at Meal-times, at locking up at Night, and after being locked up, when the Prisoners, having been acquainted either before their Committal to Prison, or since their meeting in the Class, freely converse from Cell to Cell during the Evening and great Part of the Night. No Stranger, nor indeed the Officers of the Prison, know what Conversation is going on in the Day-rooms by the Wardsmen, by the sick, and by Prisoners who meet in the Performance of various Duties in which they are permitted to be employed; and I repeat my perfect Conviction, that the best apparently regulated Prison in England presents but very little real Obstacle to Prisoners in the same Class, and indeed, I may venture to add, throughout the Whole of the Classes, communicating any thing they may think proper to each other. It is absolutely impossible while they are permitted to approach on the same Tread-wheel or in the same Work-room that any Surveillance can be so perfect as to supply an effectual Check to this enormous Evil.

" But suppose Communication by Speech to be perfectly prevented, suppose it to be so, still the very Acquaintance by Sight is an Evil of no small Magnitude, and which is with the greatest Impropriety wholly disregarded. Acquaintance by Sight when in Prison will induce Recognition when without, as well as Acquaintance by Speech. In many Cases the Effects of Prison Associations are by no means immediately felt, and indeed it is impossible to say at what Time of Life or in what Way the slumbering Viper may again be drawn forth to sting the casual and reformed Offender, to renew the unknown or forgotten Slander, and to drag down the unhappy Victim who by long Exertion may have succeeded in at least partially regaining Public Esteem. It is not unlikely that many Youths, by having the Blush called into their Cheeks in the Presence of their Companions, have preferred descending to the lowest Grade, and seeking Acquaintances among whom Compunction would be ridiculed and Infamy almost considered a Virtue. And how probable is it that Females, Years after the Commission of an Offence, have been hailed by drunken and profligate Prison Acquaintances, of whom they never would otherwise have had the slightest Knowledge, and when in Company of Friends to whom the Circumstance was never known, or by whom it had long been forgiven and forgotten. The Liability to be thus exposed is such an unjust and unnecessary Check upon Reformation, is such a Millstone hung round the Neck of virtuous Resolution, as to be highly prejudicial; and doubtless many, who might by the smallest Help have been enabled to re-ascend the steep Path which leads to a good Name, have been completely deterred by the impolitic Difficulty thus attached to the Undertaking. Thus, instead of fostering the virtuous Principle, instead of inclining the wavering Mind and assisting the young Offender to regain his lost Character, when the Smart of his Punishment is yet fresh upon him, an Impediment is thrown in his Way, which it is almost beyond human Power to overcome. What Female who may, by the Temptations of a Vanity so natural and so fatal to the Sex, have once rendered herself liable to this Contamination, can for a Moment be supposed capable of ever resisting its Influence. However great may at first be her Sense of Degradation and Disgust, however strong her Feeling of Shame, the Acquaintances she will have formed and the Taint she will have received must create such a fatal Impression on her Mind as to render the Way to Virtue doubly rugged, and to strew Flowers in the Path of Vice. When we reflect on the dreadful Consequences of the destructive Blasts of Prison Contamination, so fatal and so extensive in their Aim, we can scarcely restrain a Feeling of Shame and Indignation that this Classification should be all the Effort a great and enlightened Nation can make to arrest the Progress of so alarming an Evil, that a timid and miserable Policy should suffer the fatal Gangrene to eat into the Vitals of Society, and still fear and neglect to apply the Cautery to the rankling Wound.

" Since,

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

"Since, then, this most mischievous Tendency is constantly counteracting the Good which Discipline and Correction ought to produce, it is not wonderful that the high Expectations that were anticipated from them should have so signally failed.

"As the Tread-wheel is now generally adopted in most Houses of Correction, I shall confine my Observations to it, as that Description of Punishment with which I am best acquainted, and I shall endeavour to show, that, besides the Difficulty of preventing Contamination, there are so many serious Drawbacks as to render it totally unfit for the Purpose for which it was or ought to have been designed. I have before observed that no Prison, however excellent its Regulations, can wholly suppress evil Communications. Those Prisoners in the same Class, particularly those who may have been acquainted before their meeting in Prison, will eagerly watch and embrace every Opportunity that may present itself. If the Officer but turn his Back, if his Attention is diverted but for a Moment to any other Part of his Duty, that Moment is seized with the utmost Promptitude. When Prisoners are working at the Tread-wheel they necessarily are at some little Distance from the Officer, their Backs are towards him, and Conversation more or less can go on in an under Tone, which it is impossible completely to suppress while Prisoners are working touching each other. It has been endeavoured in some Prisons to remedy this by dividing the Wheel into Partitions, so that the Prisoners work separately as in a Box, and by taking them individually from the Wheel to their Cell. This may certainly be done, and will as certainly tend to lessen the Evil. It is however a cumbrous Regulation. The Difficulty of keeping an exact Account of each Prisoner's Labour, and of taking them forward and backward, must be very great; the Attention of the Officer must be confined to this single Duty; the Tread-wheel also will only hold about Four Fifths of the Number that it will contain without the Partitions. The Expense of a Prison must therefore be considerably increased in Machinery and Officers by this Mode of carrying on the Discipline; and the constantly confining Prisoners (and if they be not constantly confined the Regulation is of little Use) in their Cells, and keeping them on the Tread-wheel separate and alone, is an Infraction of the Spirit of the present Law, which assuredly does not contemplate any thing like individual Seclusion.

"But, after all, if the Law *did* sanction this individual Seclusion thus far, still it is only an Approximation to Perfection. There must be Wardsmen in every Class; and many Prisoners who are constantly employed in a hard-labour Prison, who are thus removed from under their Officer's Eye, they must have frequent Opportunities of talking in going to the Privies, to the Surgeon, to the Chapel, for their Meals, &c., as well as those who attend the Schools, and in many other Cases that are of daily Occurrence.

"The Labour of the Tread-wheel is also objectionable on account of its Irregularity in the Amount of Work performed by each. Supposing the Regulation as to speaking, and even as to Sight, to be strictly carried into execution, still the constant Variation in the Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison will occasion nearly a corresponding Variation in the individual Labour. It will constantly happen that there are not enough Tread-wheels for the whole of the Prisoners to work when the Prison is full; and indeed whatever Number there may be in Confinement, whether more or less than the Classes were intended to contain, the Variation will be occasioned by the Addition or Subtraction of a single Individual. For instance, if a Wheel be of sufficient Dimensions to contain Fifteen Persons, and the Maximum of Labour be Three to One, or Forty-five Minutes per Hour, there should be Twenty Men to work in that Class, when the Proportion will be exact, as there will be Fifteen on the Wheel and Five off; but if there be any other Number (not divisible by Four) the Amount of individual Labour will be less; and it must be observed, that the Classification, without, as I have shown, any adequate Benefit, renders this Irregularity still greater; and it sometimes occurs that One Class may be working Five, Ten, or even Fifteen Minutes per Hour actual Work less than almost all the others; and when we take into consideration that this Amount is doubled *in Difference* by the Change from Labour to Rest, the Quantity in a Day's Work will be found to be considerable; and although this is sought to be prevented by changing the Prisoners from one size Wheel to another, by

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

dividing the larger Classes into Two, &c. still it constantly happens that a great Irregularity cannot be prevented.

"This Irregularity occasions Disputes and Irritation, which is highly destructive of all Discipline. While these are going on, Labour is suspended; and I have frequently known all the Prisoners get off a Wheel, and Argument to be carried on for some Time before they could again be brought to work. Moreover, as the notorious Offenders are generally shrewd and clever, they sometimes succeed in puzzling the Officer respecting their Turns, &c., who may not always be able to silence Objections which appear specious, or provide Remedies for Wants and Occasions which seem reasonable, and he is thus brought into Contempt; especially as the Prisoners will combine to deceive him, and he has frequently no Clue to guide him amidst a Multitude of Contradictions.

"Tread-wheel Labour is also very ineffectual from the Impossibility of its being made a general Punishment, from the Liability which it presents for interference with the Sentence on account of Health. In all Punishments there are some Liabilities of this Kind, and it will be readily seen that this Species of hard Labour must have its full Share. To the healthy and robust only, who can have no possible Excuse for leaving their Work, can it be said to be certain. How few Persons are there who cannot frame some Excuse for visiting the Surgeon, who cannot display some old Mark of a Hurt or Wound inflicted many Years before, and which is sure to be painful during a Confinement in Prison? How many Cases are there where the Offenders cannot be placed on the Wheel at all, or, at most, but for a small Portion of their Imprisonment? I am not considering here whether any Description of Crime ought to be punished more or less; with that Point the Efficacy of Prison Discipline has nothing to do. If the Law declares any thing to be a Crime for which certain Punishment should be inflicted, the Propriety of that Declaration is not attempted to be examined here. That Species of Punishment must be the best which admits of least Interference with the Sentence when pronounced; and the Law wisely allows a Latitude to those who are empowered to pronounce that Sentence, who are thus enabled to meet the Circumstances of the various Cases which they are called upon to examine, and to determine the Amount of Punishment by the Term of its Duration.

"Prisoners are sent to the Tread-mill afflicted with Lameness in the Hands or Feet, are aged, or badly ruptured, and many others, who can by no means be placed upon the Wheels; Females who are suckling, who are enciente, &c. &c. must be also excused: these Persons therefore undergo but a small Share of the Punishment, while their Fellow Offenders suffer.

"The mere Escape from Labour, however, is not the Evil I particularly point at, but one far greater in Extent, far more degrading in its Character, and far more fatal in its Effect; it is the Door which is opened to Fraud, the eternal Endeavour to deceive the Surgeon, the incessant Recourse which is had to every Species of Falsehood, not unfrequently accompanied with self Abuse, and, particularly among the Females, with various Kinds of disgraceful Expedients; thus calling into Action all the worst Impulses of our Nature, which it should be the Business of Punishment to repress, and thus destroying the very Reformation which it is intended to excite. This is an Evil the Effects or Extent of which is very little known by Legislators. The occasional Success of one Impostor stimulates others also to exert their Ingenuity. The Excitement of this Employment, and the Applause obtained among their Fellows, has the Effect of sweetening their Labours, and rendering their Punishment almost nugatory. While every bad Passion is thus called into operation, while the Endeavour to deceive the Officers as to Labour, as well as their Fellow Prisoners in numerous minor Points as to Food, Clothing, &c. &c., form an Employment so much to the Taste of the accomplished Culprit, and so peculiar to his Habits, can it be a Matter of the least Surprise that we never hear of a reclaimed Offender, that the Labours of the different Chaplains are unproductive, that the momentary Impressions which perhaps are not unfrequently made should be immediately effaced, and that a Prison is beheld by the great Mass without the least Feeling of Dread?

"But the greatest Objection to the Tread-wheel is, that it endeavours to effect its Object by the weakest and most difficult Road; it attacks the Mind, as it were, through the Body, or, rather, bodily Punishment is made the primary,

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

primary, and mental Punishment the secondary Consideration. If there were no active Principles of Resistance to Reform in operation, which I have shown to be the unavoidable Companions of our present Mode of Punishment, still the Avenues to Reflection are in a great measure closed, which it should be the first Object of Correction to throw open. Prisoners thus actively employed look happy and cheerful; it is a general Remark of Strangers; their Time passes smoothly, if not merrily along; they have little or no Care; their daily Food is provided and put into their Hands; and with Plenty of Air, Exercise, and Company, the Wants of many can be very trifling. They can therefore look forward with placid Joy to the Time of their Enlargement, and proceed without Apprehension to take their Chance of being again arrested and sent back to the Wheel. During the Period of Confinement, Reflection is prevented by the Presence of their Companions; they think little about forming Resolutions of Amendment; and they carry away none of that salutary Dread which a Prison should properly inspire.

" Although when a Consideration of such vital Importance as the Reformation of Offenders is concerned, I have already stated that Expense must be disregarded, still the Erection of many splendid, light, and airy Edifices, with costly Machinery, has, perhaps, been carried a little too far, and especially if it be allowed, as I contend, that the Effect is exerted in a wrong Direction. In Foreign Countries, where manual Labour is a great Object, some adequate Return may be made of Prisoners Work, but in Great Britain, where Machinery so much abounds, and where most Articles can be purchased cheaper than they can be produced by any but the regular Manufacturer, the Return of a Treadmill will barely defray the Expence of keeping it in repair: the first Cost of Machinery is therefore wholly sunk; great Care and Attention are required in constantly looking after it; a Mass of Rules and Regulations are embodied, which demand the most unremitting Solicitude in administering, and which produce Disputes, Irritation, Falsehood, and every Kind of disgraceful Deception, in a most laborious Endeavour to effect what could be infinitely better done without it.

" It is true that there are some Handicraft Trades which Machinery does not materially interfere with, and that Shoe-making, Saddlery, Carpenters and Joiners Work, and some others, might still be taught Prisoners, as a Manner of usefully employing their Time while in Prison, and as a Means of enabling them to gain an honest Livelihood when discharged; that Women might be taught the various Branches of Needlework, the Business of the Laundry, Wash-house, &c., &c.; this is certainly true; but it may still be doubted whether it is right for Society to confer any thing that may be considered a Benefit upon Crime, or to bestow upon Offenders a Premium, which by Thousands of the deserving Poor would be hailed as a great Blessing. If this be a just Mode of reasoning, however harsh and unfeeling it may at first appear, it will follow that the Philanthropist, in mistaken Zeal in the Cause of Humanity, has held out Inducements to Crime, and Temptations to transgress the Laws, which it should be his first Duty to uphold; at all events it must be evident that only the Rudiments of these Trades can be taught to Prisoners who are to be confined but for a short Time, that it would destroy the Ends of Punishment by lightening its Burden, and I think therefore it would be much better for those Prisoners whose Confinement does not extend beyond a certain Period not to be employed at all in manual Labour. Society should not, in the Indiscretion of its Kindness, confer any thing like an Advantage, except upon those whose Punishment shall be so severe that no Person could for a Moment wish to undergo it, to embrace the attendant Benefit. However the gentle and the good may be shocked at such cold Reasoning as this, it is, I fear, only a Part of the immutable Law of Nature, and a Fulfilment of the Almighty Decree, which declares that 'by the Sweat of thy Brow thou shalt eat Bread.' To raise the Criminal above the deserving Poor is surely a most irrational Inversion, and an Outrage on common Sense. While there is in a Nation an honest and industrious Individual, that Individual has a Right to expect whatever Assistance his Fellow Citizens can bestow, before the dishonest and the idle, not only as a Matter of Favour, but as a just Reward for the Example he has given to Society.

" As an Instance of how much the best Parts of Prison Regulations contain in themselves the Bane of their Perfection I may mention, that at no Time or

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

in no Manner is Decorum more violated than in the Passage to and from Chapel, and in the Schools. It is a Matter of daily Occurrence that Prisoners who have been working in Silence and good Order for Hours, from the Circumstance of their being closely thronged together through narrow Parts, imperfectly lighted, perhaps where Detection is difficult, if not impossible, become, during the short Time of their Transit, noisy, turbulent, and riotous; the Bands of good Order appear to be suddenly removed, and every minor Species of Crime is committed in an Instant, as hustling their Fellow Prisoners, and stealing from their Pockets, annoying the old and irritable, as well as swearing and every Kind of vicious Expression, &c. &c. It is true that this lasts only a few Minutes, that the Disorder immediately subsides on reaching their Seats in the Chapel, and that Decency is seldom outraged during the Performance of Divine Service; the Confusion, however, as suddenly returns during their Passage back; and it must be expected that Situations which expose the Prisoners to Temptations to such irregular Behaviour will of themselves destroy all the Effect which their Attendance on Divine Worship ought to produce. It will easily be imagined that Female Prisoners are particularly guilty of this Breach of Decorum; although withdrawn from under their Officer's Eye but for a few Seconds, during the turning a Corner or locking a Door, their Volubility, as if increased by preceding Restraint, breaks out with redoubled Impetuosity, all solemn and religious Feelings are immediately destroyed; and can it be supposed that their compulsory Attendance in Chapel can be productive of the slightest Good? When so many Persons are assembled in such a contracted Space they cannot but be sensible of their own Strength, of the Impossibility of the Officers fixing upon any one in particular; and although I have stated above, that Decorum is seldom outraged in the Chapel, I must add that some of the greatest Riots which I have witnessed in the Prison have occurred in that Place, upon One or Two Occasions where the Prisoners have fancied themselves aggrieved. The Schools are not so bad, as they are less numerously attended, but it is an Evil of a similar Nature, and only differs in Degree, especially in the Female School. If the School Master or Mistress is only absent a Moment, all Sorts of riotous Conduct and Conversation immediately commence. It may also be added, that the 'Classification' is again violated here, since I apprehend in no Prison is there a School for each Class.

"I trust I have now shown that Tread-wheel Labour and Prison Discipline generally, however excellent it may appear when contrasted with the old State of Laxity and Degradation, is still far, very far, short of Perfection or of attaining its intended End; that it is yet liable to all the Horrors of Contamination to their utmost Extent, that Irritation and Indecorum prevail to a much greater Degree than may be imagined, that the good Order obtained in any Prison is more apparent than real, that Reflection is destroyed rather than fostered, and that Reformation is next to impossible. Indeed, Observation abundantly confirms the Inutility of Prisons, except inasmuch as they shut up Offenders temporarily who would otherwise run loose upon Society, and that they break Plans of Depredation by restraining for a short Time One or more of the Projectors; but it must not be forgotten, as a Balance to this Benefit, that the Culprits are educated during their Confinement to, perhaps, a far greater Extent than they would acquire, if left to themselves, in a considerable Period, and are turned out of Prison accomplished in the Trade of Villany.

"I apprehend that by far the greatest real Punishment which is endured by the Inmates of a Prison generally arises from their being kept on a reduced Allowance of Food, and from their being deprived of stimulating Drink. The First of these Privations, however, is only really felt by the Men, as the Females and Boys have a sufficient Allowance; and the Second, however disagreeable it may be considered by the Prisoners themselves, is doubtless one of the greatest Benefits that could be conferred upon them, in breaking the Chain of Debauchery, and allowing the System a temporary Respite from the Influence of intoxicating Spirits. The Effects of this I have witnessed many Times, especially in the Cases of young Females, who have been committed to Prison bloated and disgusting, or squalid and emaciated, and who, after having remained on regular Diet for a Month, have been discharged with every Appearance of renewed Health, and a surprising Improvement in point of personal Appearance. The

Elasticity

157

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Elasticity of the youthful Mind soon accommodates itself to any Situation that is not altogether intolerable, especially where Company is provided; Boys therefore, who are also not affected by the Dietary, can hardly be said to be punished at all, much less then can they be said to be reformed. With respect to young Females, I think I need only ask any Person not absolutely deranged, if, in endeavouring to recall an abandoned Woman back to feminine Feelings and reformed Habits, he would commence by placing her in the highest State of Excitability, which in some Cases is known to affect her constitutionally,—a Situation in which her easily-excited Temperament immediately renders her reckless of Restraint, intractable to Instruction, and heedless of Consequences, to elicit a full Condemnation of Tread-wheel Labour altogether; even without taking into the Account what I have showed to be its inevitable Attendants and Consequences, it must be evident that, especially among Women, this State of bodily Excitement must produce equally irritable Thoughts, Acts, and Conversation, which cannot be wholly suppressed, and must therefore completely destroy every thing like sober Reflection.

"Any other Kind of Labour which does not induce this Excitement, such as Needlework for Women, picking Oakum, &c. for Men, must be much more favourable to Reformation; but when it is considered that even this contains a counteracting Principle in itself, by diverting the Attention, and furnishing Matter for at least *some* Conversation, I think it will be seen that it had better be abandoned, especially for short Confinements. While the Comforts of Acquaintance and Companionship, however restricted, be conceded, a Prison will be any thing but a Place to improve the Morals or to mend the Heart, to create Regret for the past, or a Determination to reform the future.

"Since then, neither Tread-wheel or any other Kind of Labour has been found competent to produce the Result for which Punishment was designed, since its anticipated Good is ascertained to be more than counterbalanced by its attendant Ills; I believe it will be allowed that there is but One Expedient which can combine the Advantages and avoid the Evils, that can ensure Punishment without risking Contamination, that will induce Reflection, strengthen virtuous Resolution, calm the turbulent, and correct the vicious, destroy Temptation to deceive by removing the Cause and the applauding Witnesses who used to excite it, and deliver the Criminal up to the Spell of a Monitor, hitherto little heeded amidst the Bustle and Riot of a debauched Life, but who will not fail to exact from the disarmed Culprit powerful Retribution for former Neglect, and this Expedient is Isolation or solitary Confinement.

"Before, however, we commence entering into the Propriety of adopting this Mode of Punishment, it is necessary to define and determine precisely to what Extent solitary Confinement can or should be practically carried. The first view of this Subject presents a frightful Picture to the Imagination, and the immuring a Fellow Creature in the Seclusion of a narrow Cell is beheld with a Terror and Alarm which could not be much increased if the unhappy Criminal were in Danger of being starved to Death. It is perfectly astonishing to witness the Diversity of Opinions that have been formed on this Matter; some Persons to whom the Subject of Prison Discipline was not altogether new, I have known contend against all Classification, Walls, Yards, and Divisions; while others have as stoutly maintained that all Punishment should be inflicted by shutting Prisoners up in total Darkness for a very few Days only. These are the Two Extremes between which Propriety resides. It will, I imagine, be needless for me to combat the First Proposition, which, I apprehend, carries its own Condemnation; but with respect to the Second, which is solitary Confinement in its strictest Sense, it must be remarked that many Circumstances will render it impossible to execute such a Sentence when pronounced, and that all Punishment should be as general as possible; that is, it should be of such a Nature as not to render it liable to be evaded. Short Sentences of solitary and dark Confinement might easily be defeated by the Prisoners pretending Fits or other active Illness; they must be taken out of the dark Cells, and the Sentence would expire before probably the Medical Officer was able to decide on the Case; Prisoners who are ill of Diseases not active or dangerous cannot be denied Medical Aid; Females could be able to evade it under various Pretences, and it may be feared that it is too powerful a Punishment to be inflicted on the Sex generally. Reformation is given up as out of the Question, as there can be no Opportunity for Religious Instruction and Advice without personal

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Communication with the Chaplain, who, as well as the Surgeon, would materially interfere with the Sentence; and there can be no Time for that silent Monitor, whose Approach, though not equally hasty perhaps, is, I apprehend, equally certain in all Cases where the Situation is favourable to his Advances. Another Reason which I believe to be fully as important is, that when the Sentence is so very short, even the Prospect of its certain and speedy Termination would afford a Relief which is highly unfavourable to Improvement; and also, the necessary Period that would be required for the heavier Offenders might possibly endanger their Health, or at least so much so as to render it proper to interfere with the Sentence on Medical Grounds.

"There are many other Inconveniences attending this Species of dark and solitary Incarceration (although I consider the above quite sufficient to command its Rejection), which, however they may be more or less obviated by Contrivances, will on Enumeration be found to place the Advantages of a more lenient Mode of Punishment, with increased Time, in a still stronger point of view. It is evident that a Gaoler cannot be enabled to take the proper Charge of his Prisoners unless he and his Officers have the Means of overlooking them whenever Occasion may require, and of watching the Proceedings of any who may be suspected of Deception, &c.; and it would be better if they could do so without being themselves observed. The Prisoners Food might and should be given them without Communication by Speech or Sight, but their Bedding also should be removed every Morning and given them every Evening, which cannot be done without the latter. Those confined for above a certain Period should be allowed a short Time for Air and Exercise; and, although much Instruction cannot be given to short Fines, still I think it will be agreed that they should by no means be kept without Spiritual Assistance; that all who can read should be supplied with suitable Books, and of course the Means of reading them. It will perhaps be objected, that supplying the Prisoners with Books is doing in another Way what I have hitherto been decrying, viz., lightening the Burden of Punishment by furnishing them with Amusement or Employment; true, but my Object is to reform the Mind, to teach the Offender to think, to reflect; and therefore a certain Degree of Relief which tends to promote these Ends is not only proper, but indispensable. The Prisoner is thus taught to hold Communion with God and with himself. This is assailing the Enemy by the proper Means, since if the Mind is reformed the Conduct will necessarily follow. When the Citadel is reduced, the Town will surrender of itself. Besides, nothing can be more prejudicial or impolitic than to allow the Human Mind to sink into a State of morbid Insensibility and Despondency, which it perhaps would do if not stimulated by some little exciting Exercise; and I imagine this, with the short Time for Air and bodily Exercise which I have before mentioned, will be just sufficient to preserve Health.

"The Severity of any particular Mode of Punishment which does not affect the Health I deem as of little Consequence, for while that Severity can be measured or is known, the total Quantity can be regulated by its Duration. These Considerations, however, have Limits, which must not be lost sight of, lest, while avoiding one Extreme, we run into another. At present, a Prisoner is confined for Eighteen Months or Two Years for uttering counterfeit Coin, or for an Assault on a Constable, &c., while his Wife and Family must in many Cases be supported by the Parish. Would it not be better, by increasing the Severity of the Punishment, to inflict the same Amount in a shorter Period of Time, and thus allow the Culprit earlier to return to assist in relieving Society from the Support of his Offspring; for it should be known that the few Prisoners who are thus enduring protracted Confinement in our Prisons are almost certain to obtain some easy Situation long before the Expiration of the Term of Imprisonment, where the Sense of the Punishment is alleviated by their good Fortune in procuring an Appointment, which makes them Objects of Envy to those who surround them. On the other hand, the Term cannot be extremely shortened, as the Severity of the Punishment would require to be increased so much as to make it a Torture, and the limited Time would destroy all Hope of Reformation. It seems, therefore, that a Medium must be observed in this as in every thing else; that either Extreme is highly pernicious and destructive of the proposed Result. I think it will be admitted that a great Improvement is open here; and that while many Persons are suffered to drag on their Existence for One or Two Years in a State of listless Indifference, without

159

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

without suffering Punishment and without feeling Remorse, and are dismissed at the Expiration of their Confinement without carrying away any of the salutary Dread which is the Protection of Society, where the Criminal is unreclaimed, while not only themselves but their Families are maintained at the Expense of that Community which they have outraged, others are sent to Prisons, for minor Offences, for such short Periods that they have hardly Time to commence feeling Repentance or Remorse before they are again vomited forth upon the World; they can scarcely have gone through the necessary Process of cleaning, &c. &c. before they are again discharged; and the only Impressions they have received are a temporary Benefit in purifying their Persons, and a damning and lasting Evil in the Acquaintances formed during their short Incarceration. Here the Medium is exceeded in both Directions; firstly, by the present lenient Nature of hard-labour Punishment, which requires so long a Period of Imprisonment to inflict the necessary Quantum; and secondly, by short Confinements, which are no Punishments at all, and whose only Effect is Evil.

"The Advantages belonging to the System of solitary Confinement in light Cells, with proper Regulations as to Employment, (which should be chiefly mental, or at all events in the first place,) Air, and Exercise, must, I think, be obvious on the slightest Investigation. The First and greatest is the total Prevention of Contamination; Second, its Tendency to promote Reformation, by inducing Reflection and destroying Irritation; Third, by the Generality of the Punishment, which therefore could be seldom evaded; Fourth, its Severity, which, requiring shorter Periods of Confinement, would therefore be less expensive.

"Of the First of these I have already spoken at some Length; but I am so anxious on this Point, which I consider of the greatest possible Importance, that I believe I cannot impress it too strongly on my Readers; it is indeed a dreadful and enormous Evil; it may be said, that Prisoners may and do frequent such Company as they meet in Prison, when at large; it is but too true, I fear, that many do; but as they cannot be made worse, the Fear is, not that they themselves shall be contaminated, but that they shall contaminate others. It is the Novice in Crime that we may hope to deter; the Youth who has yet some Feelings of Compunction, and the Female who has some Sense of Shame; the Striplings of both Sexes from the Country, who will be prevented from forming Acquaintances and Associations with the Infamy of the Town. And be it ever remembered, that however short or long may be the Distance which the Culprit has advanced in the Road to Ruin, his Course must be more or less checked, and cannot be accelerated, by the Infliction of solitary Confinement.

"I must here endeavour to meet another Objection of some Weight, respecting Persons committed for Trial. It may at first sight be alleged, that however clear the Evidence may be against them, still, as their Cases have to be examined into and determined on before another Tribunal, by which they may be declared innocent, they should not at once be ordered into solitary Confinement. But even here, the Injustice of this Mode of Proceeding, especially when coupled with the Advantages attending it, will not upon Examination be found so flagrant as may at first be imagined. The Law commands, that for certain Crimes and in certain Cases Persons shall be committed to Gaol for safe Custody; but since the Danger of confining Persons together is so apparent and so extensive, why should not the Law further command that they shall be kept in their Cells alone, and separate from each other, to be allowed as much Latitude as Circumstances will permit, to have more frequent Communication with the Officers of the Prison, to have more Air and Exercise if possible, but still to be prevented from associating with other Persons in similar Predicaments? What Parent would not readily embrace the Proposa for his Child? Surely the Law in its Tenderness should weigh Consequences and examine Circumstances; surely it is its most undoubted Province in such Cases to preserve Society as much as possible from Contamination, and Individuals from Destruction before Trial, as to punish Offenders after Conviction. The Case admits of only Two Distinctions, Contamination or Separation. No Person is committed to Gaol until after Examination had upon Oath before a Magistrate; and if committed after such Examination, however the Technicality of the Law may consider him innocent until a Jury shall pronounce the

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Charge proved, still Reason will view him, if not as guilty of the whole Crime charged against him, yet so much so as to allow that substantial Justice will not be essentially violated by his Confinement, and as under the unavoidable Circumstances to render it highly proper that he should not be allowed such Range during the Time as to expose him to the fatal Influence of the Maelstrom, whose Vortex is certain and irretrievable Ruin. Essential Justice is doubtless infringed in every Prisoner who is confined in Gaol, and discharged after Trial; it is the unavoidable Nature of human Institutions. In one Case the Confinement is lighter, but the Consequences most fatal; in the other, the Confinement is more irksome, but the Consequences must be most salutary. It cannot be seen without Surprise, that the Operation of the Law at present is Tenderness and Lenity to the hardened and notorious Criminal, while on the casual Offender it presses with Tenfold Severity; for the latter not only suffers doubly, if he has yet any remaining Feelings of Propriety, but carries away the Poison in his Mind after the Sting of Punishment has ceased to be felt; while the former is likely to suffer less during the Operation, and can imbibe but little additional Taint comparatively from the Situation in which he has been placed.

" It will be seen in a great Majority of the petty Felonies which are tried at our Sessions, that if the Offence was not so clear as to bring the Culprit within the Letter of the Law, that is to say, if the Offence was less, the same Magistrate, who, after Examination, would commit the Thief to Gaol for Trial if the Offence was certain, would most probably, from the Character of the Delinquent, in the former Case immediately send him to a House of Correction as a Rogue and Vagabond and reputed Thief; and supposing solitary Confinement to exist in the latter Places, could there be any Impropriety in permitting the same Magistrate to inflict immediately the same Penalty for a clearer and greater Crime believed, and indeed proved on Oath to have been committed, (but which the Tenderness of the Law prevents him from finally determining on,) than he is already authorized to award for a lighter and smaller one, and more especially as the Confinement undergone before Trial could be taken into consideration on passing the Sentence.

" It has been suggested that an Amelioration of this Mode of Confinement, viz., placing a small Number of Prisoners in a roomy Cell together, instead of keeping them separate, Regard being had to their Crime and Character, might be sufficient in these Cases; but when the Difficulty of discriminating is taken into consideration, coupled with the defective Information which must always exist in Gaols, when it is remembered that there must be Three Males in each of these Cells, and that, in the event of Mistake, the keeping these Persons so much together is like to disseminate the Poison with concentrated Strength, I think it will be conceded that nothing short of Isolation from other Prisoners will meet the Evil.

" The Second Advantage of solitary Confinement is its Tendency to promote Reflection and its avoiding every Kind of Irritation. In all Sorts of Labour there must arise more or less Conversation, which (however it may be attempted) it will be found impossible wholly to suppress; Disputes respecting the Quantity and Manner of performing manual Labour, respecting the Turn for remounting the Tread-wheel, respecting the Number resting compared with the Number working, respecting the Food, Clothing, &c. &c. Numberless Questions may be and are asked every Day, which not only cannot be prevented, but which render Reply imperative; this produces Rejoinder and so forth. These Irregularities are exhibited to the Eye of Magistrates or Strangers as little as possible when *they* visit the Yards of Prisons, all such Exhibitions are, of course, seen by the Prisoners to be unseasonable; nevertheless they do occur, I may say, Hundreds of Times every Day; all this is directly opposed to Reflection. Prisoners are generally very ready to seek Occasions of Conversation and Dispute, and these, which are frequently Sources of much Trouble and Disquietude to the Officers, afford *them* a means of Relaxation and Amusement, of exercising that Quickness of Perception and Repartee for which many are remarkable, of displaying their Talents, and eliciting Applause from their Fellow Prisoners, of exulting perhaps in the Officers Perplexity, and thus unprofitably passing away Time during which they should unquestionably be so circumscribed as to be kept at least in the Road to Reformation. The very Act of Removal to so many different Places or Parts of the Prison (and especially in large Bodies) is a Laxity which

161

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

is highly detrimental. The Prisoner has first his Cell, then a Day-room, perhaps a Work-room, a large Airing or Working Yard, to the Chapel, to the Hospital, besides the different Places in which they may be permitted to work, and those who attend the Schools; thus it will be seen that besides the Performance of Labour, the Prisoner spends not an inconsiderable Portion of his Time in visiting one Part or other of the Prison, all of which tends to divert his Attention and occupy his Mind. By depriving the Prisoner of Company, and retaining him in the Solitude of his Cell, you deliver him up to Thought, you take away almost all the Occasions for Conversation or Diversion, the Mind soon becomes a placid Mirror, reflecting past Events with a Faithfulness which cannot be mistaken or confused, and a Force which cannot be repelled, and by pourtraying past Motives and Actions in their real Colours supplies the best Guide by which the Culprit may govern himself in future.

"Thirdly. This Sort of Punishment must be the most general that can be adopted, as there are very few Cases in which it may not be inflicted with Safety and Certainty, and these few will occur the less frequently on account of the shorter Duration of the Prisoners Confinement, of which I shall speak by and by. Of course these few Cases are all medical ones, and when Deception is imagined by the Surgeon to be practised, the Person suspected can easily be placed in a Cell so constructed that he shall be overlooked without the Inspector being observed; by this Means the Attempt will be soon detected, or at all events Assistance can be readily supplied. I have before mentioned that Deception is constantly attempted in Tread-wheel Labour, doubtless sometimes successfully; and although not many have the Hardihood to persevere to any great Length, I have known a Prisoner hold out for Three Months, although on Bread and Water Diet, and confined in a dark Cell for nearly all the Time. This only occurs when the Criminal is to be imprisoned for a long Period, and when the expected Relief will therefore be considerable, when he is stimulated by the continual Hope of every Day attaining his End, and when his yielding, though but for a Day or Two, would destroy the Impression which he hopes to have made by his former lengthened Endurance. But as Deception is much easier practised by Women than by Men, it is among Female Prisoners that it is most constant and most successful; the constitutional Habits of Women renders it imperative that they shall be excused from the Wheel every Fourth Week, but this Period of Relaxation is not unfrequently extended by Practices which cannot be described; and indeed, however excellent the Female Officers of a House of Correction may be, still on a Subject of this Nature they cannot but be constantly deceived; and if the Prisoner is brought to work at all, perhaps at the End of One or Two Days, it is only after every Species of bickering, Trick, Falsehood, and Irritation has been exhausted, and which is completely destructive of the true End of Punishment. What is easier than for a Woman on her entering a Prison to declare herself to be enceinte? Some considerable Portion of her Term of Imprisonment must elapse before the Falsehood can be discovered, and *then only by furnishing another Excuse from the Labour of the Tread-wheel.* Thus it will be seen that Three Weeks on the Average will nearly be lost before the Female can be brought to the Tread-wheel at all; and in the Neighbourhood of the Metropolis at least Three Weeks is full the Average Term of Women's Confinement, which is shorter than that of the Men, on account of the Number of disorderly Females who are committed for Seven and Ten Days. Their delicate Constitutions, the Liabilities to which they are exposed, and the serious Consequences that may result from Harshness towards them, present an insurmountable Barrier to hard-labour Discipline, and can only be obviated effectually by solitary Confinement.

"I believe the supposed frightful Severity of this Mode of Punishment has hitherto been the greatest Obstacle to its Adoption; it is clear that the Law is very apprehensive on this Head, as the Act of Parliament contains a Clause which provides against the Possibility of its Occurrence. I doubt not but the strictest Species of solitary Confinement which might be contrived would soon be attended with alarming Consequences; but if it be carried into Practice with the moderating Circumstances which it is the Province of this Paper to advocate, and with common Care, I feel the strongest Assurance that nothing of the Kind need be feared. I am fully aware that solitary Confinement is a severe Description of Punishment, and, moreover, that its Severity

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

may be said to increase in geometrical Proportion to the Time of its Endurance, while the Sympathies are preserved in healthy Activity; but I repeat my fullest Conviction, that if judiciously administered no Fears need be entertained of its Consequences; on the contrary, there is every Reason to hope that the Result would be most beneficial. I have had a Prisoner under my Charge, undergoing solitary Confinement for Six Months, without the slightest alarming Symptom appearing; he enjoyed very good Health, and although a little reduced in Strength at the End of his Confinement, still not more so than many others who underwent hard Labour for a less Period. It is but fair for me to state, however, that I had not then the Means of carrying solitary Confinement into execution in the Manner contemplated in this Paper, and that I am not an Advocate for these protracted Punishments except in very flagrant Cases.

" I have made a Practice of examining such of the Prisoners in my Custody who have from Time to Time undergone both Tread-wheel Labour and solitary Confinement, before their Departure from Prison, as to their Estimate of the comparative Severity, and have, without a single Exception, always found that they considered the latter to be most severe, and that they would prefer a longer Period of hard Labour to a shorter one of solitary Confinement. This has been the universal Answer. One Case, however, is so strongly in point, and expresses so fully the Sense of all the others, that I shall be excused for alluding to it more particularly. It is the Case of a Youth of about Twenty Years of Age, of a morose, sullen, misanthropic Disposition, who was sentenced to Five Months and a Half hard Labour, and Fourteen Days afterwards to be kept in solitary Confinement. This Youth, who, indeed, carried his Character in his Countenance, went through his Period of hard Labour with silent Sullenness, which seldom broke out into Irregularity, and when the Time arrived for his Change to solitary he appeared to hail it as a Relaxation rather than an Increase to his Punishment. He displayed a morose Composure during the first few Days, and was equally incommunicative, and heedless to the Chaplain as to myself, rudely repelling Advances and repressing Conversation. I made it a Custom to put a few Questions to him about every Third Day, and on the first Time he told me that 'he liked it very well;' the next Time an Alteration was quite visible in his Manner, although he was but little more communicative than before; but on my Third Time of questioning him, which was about the Eighth or Ninth Day, I was quite certain that his Estimate of solitary Confinement would soon change. Finding this had taken place, I remarked the Alteration to him, alluding to his First Reply, when he observed 'Ah, Sir, I had been more than Five Months on the Wheel then.' After this he became much more open, discoursed of his past Conduct, and answered Questions readily. During the remaining Four or Five Days I took an Opportunity of asking his Opinion as to the Severity of the Two Modes of Punishment, and concluded by demanding, if he was sentenced to solitary Confinement for a Month, how great an Extension of the Time he would accept to have the Sentence altered to hard Labour. At first he seemed rather averse to much Extension, but immediately accepted Five, and soon Six Weeks; with a little Reasoning and Consideration on the Nature of the Two Punishments he admitted Seven Weeks; he was, however, very reluctant to double the Period, and after some Conversation appeared still undecided which Situation he should prefer, when, at last, he concluded with these remarkable Words, 'If I had not known what solitary Confinement is I should have taken the One Month, but now, I believe, I should prefer the Two.'

" This I consider to be a just Description of the Operation of solitary Confinement, and a fair Estimate of its Effect. Although not violent in its Action, it soon softens the Heart, and leaves an indelible Impression on the Memory. I have no Doubt, had the Period in this Case been extended but a little further, it would have left a stronger Dread on the Mind of this Youth than the whole of his hard-labour Punishment.

" But although rigorous solitary Confinement is a Punishment of the most powerful Description, it can easily be rendered lighter to whatever Degree or Extent may be judged proper, and without impairing its Utility. I have already mentioned that every Prisoner should be allowed Half an Hour per Diem to take exercise in the open Air. This is highly necessary to keep the Body

163

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Body in good Health and the Feelings in proper Tone, for it is this alone that *causes the Punishment to be felt.* If a Prisoner be incarcerated for an indefinite Period, being almost without Hope, his Spirits soon sink into a State of torpid Indifference, and he would thus become somewhat reconciled, or at all events heedless of his Fate; but with a certain End in view, however distant, while the Body is in Health the Feelings will necessarily continue to preserve a keen Sense of its Situation, and consequently to receive additional and deeper Impressions as to its true State. Should, however, this Half Hour be found too short, it can easily be extended Five, Ten, or Fifteen Minutes per Diem, either generally or in particular Cases, by adding One or Two additional Airing-yards to the Prison; or even a single Tread-wheel might be used without bad Effect, not as a general Punishment, but merely as another Kind of Exercise, and which might be usefully employed to pump so much Water as might be required for the Use of the Prison; and as One Tread-wheel would contain abundant Room for this Purpose, it might be divided into Partitions, so that the Workers would still be solitary. Again, if it should be found that the Degree of solitary Confinement was too severe, nothing would be easier than to allow more frequent Intercourse with the Officers of the Prison. This would effectually guard against Contamination and lighten the Punishment to any Degree that might on Trial be deemed advisable.

" The Building or Prison to be appropriated to a solitary Confinement Prison should be straight, and running North and South, with Airing-yards projecting East and West, or at Right Angles. This Arrangement will allow all the Benefit of the Sun to every Part in turn. The North Side of the Airing-yards should be provided with a Shed or Covering, which would ensure the Prisoners Exercise in wet Weather, and admit the Sun to dry it. The Number of Cells should not be more than Twenty to each Airing-yard, in order that the Prisoner might not be deprived of his daily Exercise, and he would thus be enabled to have his full Half Hour, except in the Depth of Winter, when each would be curtailed about Five Minutes if the Prison was full. The Walls dividing the Cells should project a little into the Galleries beyond the Doors, and the Iron Work of the Windows, &c. should be towards the inside Part of the Walls. The Cell should be Twelve or at least Ten Feet by Six, which would afford a little Exercise to the Inhabitant, and should be furnished with a Water Pipe, Cock, and Basin, &c. &c. The Window should be quite inaccessible, the Light coming downwards into the Cells. The Iron Bedstead should have a Hinge allowing it to double up to Half its full Size, which would still form a convenient Seat or Stool. A Slide should be contrived in the upper Part of the Door, through which the Prisoner's Meals should be given without the Supplier being seen. Bedding should be taken out of the Cell every Morning, and given in again at Night, to prevent the Prisoners wallowing all Day, and Books should be supplied to all who can read. Little or no Punishment *, it is hoped, will be required, although from the mischievous Habits of many of the Class it will sometimes be requisite at the Time of their first Arrival; still, Removal to another Cell without the Conveniences of their own, or substituting Bread and Water for the regular Diet for One Day, will in most Cases be found sufficient.

" It will be readily seen that Prisoners cannot be confined without being visited several Times in every Week; the Chaplain must visit each Prisoner in Rotation; Second, the Surgeon must see all who require his Assistance; Third, the Turnkey must release them every Day to take their daily Airing, and return them to their Cells; Fourth, their Bedding must be taken out of the Cells every Morning, and returned every Night, and their Meals must be carried, at least Twice, if not Three Times every Day. The Chaplain's and Surgeon's Visits will be occasional, since the Number of Prisoners will probably prevent the former from seeing every Person daily, and the Surgeon will only attend such as may be reported to require his Assistance; but the others are of daily Occurrence; and all these taken together will make a very considerable Interruption to the dreary Solitude from which it is apprehended such serious Consequences will arise. But there are other Interruptions, which it may,

* Punishment in a Prison is a great Evil, because it produces additional Irritation, and the Prisoner cannot be released before it is allayed; besides, Women having suckling Infants cannot be shut up in the dark Cells.

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

perhaps, be advisable for some Prisoners to receive; viz., those Persons whose Length of Confinement render it proper that they shall be taught some Trade. I have before restricted these to such as shall have already undergone a large Portion of their Sentence in solitary Confinement, and to whom, in the latter Part of their Imprisonment, it may perhaps be considered right to afford Instruction, either in reading or writing, or some handicraft Employment; if so, then a Schoolmaster or other Instructor must be provided, who must visit and remain with the Prisoner some Time every Day. I have not mentioned the Governor, who should see every Prisoner under his Charge occasionally.

" It will appear from this Description that the solitary Confinement to which I allude is only preserving the Offender from the Contamination of his Fellow Prisoners, and restricting his Communications to the Officers of the Prison; that these Officers should be permitted and ordered to visit him as often as may be deemed advisable; that he shall be allowed some Exercise every Day, shall be provided with Spiritual Assistance, and in some Cases supplied with Instruction; and I trust it will be readily acknowledged that this is not only the proper Mode to punish Offenders, but to advance them considerably in the great Work of Reformation.

" Since this Paper was commenced a Circumstance has occurred here which places the Evils of Prison Contamination in a new Light. A Prisoner is now in my Custody for the Second Time: on his former Confinement he conducted himself so well that during the latter Part of the Period he was taken off the Wheel, and placed in a Situation in the Prison which Prisoners are permitted to occupy, and where he remained until his Discharge. During the Time he was so employed he had ample Opportunity of making himself acquainted with the Habits of the Officers, with the Routine of Duty, and of observing when Advantage could best be taken of unguarded Points. On his Re-committal he was of course placed in the proper Yard (as these Situations are never given on account of good Conduct on a *former* Conviction) or Class, and although much too clever to do any thing himself which would tend to deprive him of his Chance of again obtaining a good Berth, and destroying the Effect produced by his former good Behaviour, I have every Reason to believe that he instructed his Fellow Prisoners in what Manner a Felony might be committed with Success. The Experiment however failed, the Thieves were taken with the Property in their Possession, and a clear Case being made out against them, they may be tried for stealing, as if the Crime had been committed elsewhere.*

" The last Point to which I would direct the Attention of my Reader is the Saving that would be effected by carrying this Plan into execution: this Saving would arise in Two Ways; first, from the reduced Period of the Prisoners Confinement; second, from the Discontinuance of the Use of expensive Machinery; and something, perhaps, from the smaller Number of Officers that would be required to conduct the Establishment.

" It having been allowed that solitary Confinement is a more severe Punishment than hard Labour, it necessarily follows that a shorter Period will suffice to inflict the same Amount; and if it be true, as I believe, that the Severity increases in geometrical Proportion to the Time, the Decrease will, on the present long Times, be very considerable. Thus I should say that Two Years hard Labour might be changed to Six Months solitary Confinement, Eighteen Months Ditto to Five Months Ditto, Twelve Months Ditto to Four Months Ditto, Nine Months Ditto to Three Months Ditto, Six Months Ditto to Two and Half Months Ditto, Four Months Ditto to Two Months Ditto, Three Months Ditto to Seven Weeks Ditto, Two Months Ditto to Six Weeks Ditto, Six Weeks Ditto to Four Weeks Ditto, Four Weeks Ditto to Three Weeks Ditto, and below Three Weeks the Sentences should not be diminished at all: moreover no Prisoner should be confined for less than Ten or Fourteen Days. This, it will be seen, is a very considerable Reduction.

" I should imagine, taken collectively, it would amount to nearly One Half, and therefore the Prisons in the Kingdom may be also reduced in that Pro-

* One of the Prisoners concerned in this Felony has since been tried, convicted, and sentenced to Transportation. The Day before he left the Prison he confessed that he had been instructed in the Manner I suspected; although he denied it at the Time; the other Prisoners are still at Brixton.

portion.

185

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

portion. This, however, is not all. The never-ceasing Repairs of Machinery would no longer be required, much Clothing will be saved, and it may be something in Officers Wages; but as the Business of washing, and all the minor Duties of the Prisons, must be performed by hired Servants, I cannot lay much Stress on this Item.

"It remains for me to notice one other Point on which Opposition to the System I recommend may perhaps arise. It will be seen that Prisoners in solitary Confinement cannot, in the Nature of Things, be permitted to attend Chapel as at present, and consequently will lose the Advantage of becoming acquainted with the Service of our Church. The Chaplain must see every Prisoner separately, and the Labour of doing this will of course be great. I do not, however, despair that some conscientious Men, who are not wholly actuated by a Love of Gain, can be found to undertake a Duty so important and exalted. If we calculate that a Chaplain shall spend Five Minutes with each Person, he will be able to visit Forty eight in Four Hours; and thus, in a Prison of 200 Inmates, he will only be able to see each Prisoner every Fourth Day. It were to be wished, perhaps, that these Visits should be more frequent; but I think it will readily be allowed that one such Interview *alone* (especially when taking into account the Prisoner's State of Mind, &c.) is likely to be attended with more good Effects than many compulsory Attendances on Public Worship. At present Thousands come into our Prisons, and are discharged, without ever seeing the Chaplain except in the Pulpit. I have already pointed out how these Congregations of Prisoners carry in themselves the Elements of their own Uselessness. Some Wretches, in displaying Bravado, and in endeavouring to stave off Thought, prevent the Composure of others; the Presence of their Fellows stimulates their Hardihood, and though the Service may pass without Indecorum or Interruption, it is most evident that its Effect is any thing but permanent. Indeed, it is truly melancholy to hear the Chaplains of the different Prisons report Year after Year that their Labours have in all Probability been wholly in vain. The Reason is obvious. The Impressions which it is certain are not unfrequently made are never allowed to come to Maturity; the Return to the Class immediately brings back the Influence of old Associations, Habits, and Feelings, and the transient Guest is expelled from the Mind without having had Time to become acquainted with its temporary Abode. As about Three Fourths of the Prisoners generally can read more or less, the Place of Sermons can be well supplied with Books, and, if thought advisable, the Chapel of each Prison might easily be partitioned, so that about One Third or One Fourth of the whole Number might witness the Performance of the Divine Service. The Impressions made then would be much more likely to shed a wholesome Influence over the Mind, to induce serious Reflection, and to furnish the Prisoner with that Strength and Determination of Purpose which is so necessary to enable the poor, the ignorant, and friendless to hold a steady Course amidst the Temptations and Trials of Life.

"There are several minor Points that I have not touched upon, which require complete Revision to bring them in accordance with the Principle of solitary Confinement, as respecting Communication with Friends, &c. &c., but the Use of the Birch will doubtless be a most efficient Auxiliary, and One or Two Whippings may be inflicted with good Effect, according to the Nature of the Offence and Character of the Offender; it should, however, be wholly confined to Boys, should be inflicted, as now, in the Presence of the Governor, and should be strictly private.

"Thus it will be seen that the Plan I recommend as the only one which will render Punishment efficient and certain is a *modified* System of solitary Confinement, allowing restricted Communication with the Officers of the Prison, permitting as much Air and Exercise as may be necessary for the Preservation of Health, and no more, providing suitable mental Instruction and occasional handicraft Employment, combining increased Severity of Punishment with its shortened Duration, inducing Habits of Soberness and Reflection, decreasing the Expense of Prisons, and, above all, wholly preventing that most fatal and enormous Evil, *Gaol Contamination*.

JOHN SIBLY, Lieut. R.N.,
Governor of Brixton House of Correction.

Lieutenant John Sibly, R.N.

Are the Prisoners in the House of Correction at Brixton permitted to receive or purchase Provisions from their Friends?
No.

Are they permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?
Yes, Prisoners of a certain Class, every Day; I mean those under pecuniary Fines; and the others, One Day in the Week.

Are you of opinion that convicted Prisoners whose Sentence to Prison does not exceed Six Calendar Months should be permitted to see their Friends?
I think it should be very much restricted; the Thing is constantly abused, as well as the Permission to send and receive Letters.

Does not the Admission of Visitors interfere with the Discipline of the Prison?
Very much; it occupies the Attention of the Officers; it irritates the Prisoner's Mind; it occupies his Attention, and takes him out of the Road to Reformation.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. George Smith.

Mr. GEORGE SMITH is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Governor of the Huntingdon Gaol?
Yes; the Huntingdon Gaol is a Common Gaol and House of Correction consolidated.

How long have you filled that Office?
Three Years the 30th of last Month. It is under the Jurisdiction of the Sheriff of the County, and the Magistrates of the County.

Has the Discipline in that Prison been improved within the last few Years?
Yes, very materially since I have been there, when compared with what I found on Record at the Time I went.

Do you enforce Silence?
As far as practicable, with the Means that we have; our Means are insufficient to do it effectually.

What additional Means would you require?
I should require the Tread-wheels, both of them, to be fitted up more effectually, in separate Compartments, for the Prisoners to be prevented from seeing each other during the Hours of Labour; and I consider that it would be impossible to enforce Silence strictly without more Assistance; we have but Two Officers besides myself, and we find that the Duties are quite as much as we can perform.

Is it your Practice to appoint Wardsmen or Monitors from among the Prisoners?
No; I do not approve of the Principle. I have known it tried, and I have always found a very great Objection to it. Certainly, in every Sense of the Word, falling short of that which ought to be the Object of such a System.

It appears that the greatest Number of Prisoners which you had in the Year ending Michaelmas 1834 was Fifty-three?
I am not able to answer that Question.

Do you think that where Silence is not enacted the worst-disposed Prisoners corrupt the others?
Invariably.

Have you in your Prison at the present Moment any Man that has been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?
I have One.

What is his Name?
Thomas Wright.

Is he Forty-three Years of Age?
Rather more.

Indicted

Mr. George Smith.

Indicted for Murder at the Lent Assizes in 1824 held at Huntingdon, and acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?
Yes.

Was he confined in the Gaol of the County 'till the 22d of December 1831? Was he then removed by His Majesty's Warrant to the Lunatic Asylum at Milton in the County of Suffolk?
Yes.

Did he remain there until the 12th of June 1834?
He did.

Was he then removed back to the Gaol, under a Warrant from the Secretary of State, it having been represented to His Majesty that he was then of sound Mind?
Yes.

Was he thereupon ordered to remain in Custody at the Gaol in Huntingdon 'till the King's further Pleasure be known?
Yes.

Then that Man has been above Eleven Years in Confinement, and he is at the present Moment?
Yes.

Is he insane?
There is no Appearance of it.

Do you feel yourself justified in putting that Man upon the Tread-wheel, or in giving him hard Labour?
I do not.

Having been acquitted, he cannot be therefore employed upon the Tread-wheel?
No.

He therefore stands in the Gaol in the same Position as to Allowance of Food and as to Treatment as an untried Prisoner?
Precisely.

Do you not think that keeping Persons of that Description in the Gaols produces great Inconvenience to the Discipline of the Gaols?
Exceedingly great.

With whom do you confine that Man?
With the Prisoners for Trial; we have no other Class in which I could place him.

Are you an Advocate for the separate Confinement of Prisoners?
To the utmost possible Extent; I would say we cannot go too far with it. When I say separate Confinement I do not mean entire Solitude; I would admit the Officers of the Prisons to go to the Cells as frequently as Circumstances might require, which I would not allow in case of solitary Confinement; I would allow them as much Air and Exercise as may be conducive to their bodily Health, and I would suggest that the Chaplain of the Gaol should have unrestricted Intercourse with them. I conceive there is a very material Difference between solitary Confinement and a State of Separation, and I find that the Prisoners invariably have a very great Aversion to be separated. I have a small Hand Machine which I constructed, which occasionally I have placed Men at as an Employment who are unable to tread the Wheel, and from some bodily Infirmity appear to be unfit to tread the Wheel; and I have taken the Surgeon's Opinion upon the Subject, and I have made use of this Machine, and they invariably, after they have been at it for a few Hours, have made Application to be allowed to tread the Wheel, notwithstanding their Infirmity, and with Society, rather than remain in a State of Separation.

Of what Description is the Machine?
It is a small Hand Crank Engine, turned with a Winch.

What Power does it require to work it?
One Man.

Mr. George Smith.

What Weight?
We can alter the Pressure, from the Power of a Child to the Power of a Giant, by altering the centre Screw of the Two Wheels that come in contact with each other.

What Labour does it perform?
No productive Labour.

What is the Price of it?
I had it made partly by a Prisoner who is a Mechanic, and partly by a Turnkey who is a Mechanic, but I should think the Cost of it to be about Five or Six Pounds.

Do you attribute the Wish of the Prisoners to return to the Tread-wheel to the Desire of Society, or to the greater Irksomeness of the Labour of the Hand Machine?
I endeavour to set the Machine so that it is not more laborious than the Tread-wheel; a Person who is employed at the Hand Machine if he can work that from Morning to Night without taking his Jacket off, and if a Man, at the Tread-wheel, cannot work at that without perspiring with his Jacket off, I conceive that the Machine is the lighter Labour of the Two.

How do you ascertain how much Work he does by that Machine?
I have a Gyrometer at the End of it, and I require him to perform a Thousand Revolutions in an Hour.

Have you an Ergometer to your Tread-wheel?
I have not; there was one to the Tread-wheel, but I removed it from the Wheel to the Crank Machine, where I found it of much more Service.

Have you any Means of knowing what Labour the Prisoners perform upon the Tread-wheel?
I endeavour to regulate the Number of Prisoners upon the Wheel, so that the Wheel should perform Two Revolutions every Minute.

Are the convicted Prisoners in your Custody permitted to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?
The Prisoners that are convicted are not allowed any thing beyond the Prison Allowance; the Prisoners before Trial are allowed to receive Provisions to the Amount of Two Shillings a Week from their Friends.

Any Spirits or Beer?
Not any, except by Direction of the Surgeon.

Are the Prisoners permitted to smoke in the Prison?
Not at all, except Debtors.

Are Debtors allowed to have any thing they like to eat and drink?
We regulate it as nearly as possible so as not to exceed Eight Shillings a Week; we make an Observation each Day of what comes in.

What is the Expense of the Diet of the other Prisoners?
From 1*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 8*d.* a Week; we are enabled to maintain them at a low Rate, from the Labour of the Tread-wheel; the Wheat is purchased in the Market, and it is ground by the Prisoners, and the Profit of the Tread-wheel Labour goes to reduce the Cost Price of the Flour, and the Bread is manufactured in the Prison.

You have very few Debtors in Huntingdon Gaol?
Very few; we average about Four or Five.

If they are riotous what do you do with them?
Punish them in the same Way as the Criminal Offenders.

Do you feel justified in removing them for Punishment to the Criminal Side of the Prison?
No; we have separate Cells on the Debtors Side; and we have a general refractory Cell for all Purposes of Punishment.

Do you think that Prisoners sentenced to Six Months Imprisonment should be permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?
I think Six Months too long.

Would you allow a Man committed for Three Months to receive Visits from his Friends?

No.

For what Period do you allow it?

Those sentenced for a Period exceeding Three Months Imprisonment are allowed to be visited once in Two Calendar Months after the Expiration of that Period; but those for Three Months are not allowed to receive any Visits, except in urgent Cases, such as arranging for the Payment of a Fine, or in Cases of severe Illness.

When they see their Friends, are they alone with them?

No; they are constantly under the Inspection of an Officer of the Prison, who stands between the Prisoner and the Visitor.

Has the Rule for Silence been submitted to the Judges?

We have no Rule for preserving Silence in the Prison beyond an Order of the Visiting Justices, which is put up in the Convict Wards.

Have you a Schoolmaster?

We have not.

Does the Chaplain devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Gaol?

No.

Does he attend generally every Day?

No; he attends twice on a Sunday, and preaches a Sermon and reads Prayers. He attends on the Tuesday, when he inspects every Ward, and instructs the Prisoners in the Ward. He attends on the Friday, and delivers a Lecture in the Chapel; and any other Day in the Week when I find it necessary to send for him, if any Prisoner is about to be discharged who seems to require the Advice of the Chaplain, or any thing else that requires the Attendance of the Chaplain.

Do all the Prisoners attend the Chaplain?

All in the Chapel.

Have you any Suggestions to offer to the Committee with respect to any Change in the Gaol Act or relating to Prison Discipline?

I would submit to the Committee the Necessity of carrying into effect a more efficient System of Separation, as far as practicable. I am fully convinced that great Evil arises from the Want of Separation. We have a Boy sometimes committed for stealing a Wheelbarrow. We have but one single Ward for Trial for Felonies, and this Boy is placed with other Prisoners charged with Offences of a much more aggravated Description. I lately had a Boy for stealing a Pail, and he was indicted for it at the Quarter Sessions. He lay several Weeks before Trial, and I made particular Inquiries respecting him, and found that his previous Character was very good; and, on being discharged by Proclamation at the Sessions, I took the Trouble to procure a Place for him, but, I am sorry to say, whether it was from the Effects of the bad Company that he had in Prison I do not know, but he has not turned out well. I recommended him to a Surgeon in Town as a Footman, and, I am sorry to say, that he resorted to practical Thieving; but I have every Reason to believe if that Boy had been kept from bad Society in the Gaol he would have gone out as good as he came in.

Do you not think that Silence in a Prison is most desirable?

Decidedly.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. THOMAS CLARKSON NEALE is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Governor of the Convict Gaol at Springfield in Essex?

Yes.

Is it a Common Gaol for Criminals of every Description, and Vagrants?

Yes.

Mr. T. C. Neale.

Before or after Trial?
Both.

Is it under the Jurisdiction of the Sheriff of the County, and the Magistrates?
Yes.

Is the Governor appointed by the Sheriff?
Yes.

And not by the Magistrates?
No.

Is Silence enacted in that Prison?
No.

Do not you think it would be a good Thing if it was?
I think it would be a good Thing if it could be done perfectly. We are comparatively silent, but not perfectly.

Do you permit the Prisoners to speak upon the Tread-wheels?
I cannot prevent it.

Could you if you had Divisions upon them in the Way they have at Gloucester and Bedford?
I think not. With the Permission of your Lordships I will produce a Model of the Gaol

[The Witness produces the same, which is inspected by the Committee, being a Gaol upon the radiating Principle.]

In each Yard there is a Yardsman appointed, who is a Prisoner.

Is he usually a convicted Prisoner, or an untried One?
A Prisoner of the same Class. A Tread-wheel being in each of Eight of those Yards, there is one of the Prisoners constantly walking round opposite to the Tread-wheel to keep Silence, and another Prisoner stationed in the Middle Yard to watch the Prisoners who are stationed at the Tread-wheels; and from the Windows in the Turnkey's Room the whole of the Prison can be inspected; and therefore these Prisoners who are watching the other Prisoners are inspected by the Officers; but from the Lodge Window to the Tread-wheel, the Distance is 125 Feet, and therefore an Officer in that Room cannot hear what is passing on the Tread-wheels.

If Divisions were made upon the Tread-wheel, would not that, together with the Noise of the Machinery, oblige the Prisoner working upon the Tread-wheel, if he wished to communicate with a Fellow Prisoner, to raise his Voice so much as to be heard by the Turnkey?
I think it would; but the Objection I feel is, that in the hot Weather it might be too hot. I have here a Paper which contains my Views upon the whole Subject.

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

"An Account of the Discipline in the Gaol at Springfield in the County of Essex.

Number of Classes.

"The Prisoners are divided into *Fourteen* Classes, besides those who are occasionally confined in the *Infirmary*, the *Lazaretto*, and in *Four Rooms* for the Reception of Vagrants, who may not be in a fit State to be placed in the Prison until they are cleaned or cured of Disease.

"At the Entrance to the Prison is a Room for washing the Prisoners, baking their Clothes, and otherwise preparing them to be transferred to the Interior of the Prison.

"Prisoners before Trial sleep in separate Cells, but associate together in the Day-rooms, and are *unemployed*.

Employment.

"Misdemeanants convicted, but not sentenced to hard Labour, are employed in various Ways, such as sweeping the Prison Yards, carrying Water, assisting the Officers in issuing Provisions, Clothes, &c., cooking, baking, brewing, &c.

 for

171

Mr. T. C. Neale.

for the Prisoners; and those who are not so employed walk round a Capstan during the working Hours.

Ordered by the Magistrates, 25th Oct. 1822.

" Convicted Felons, including those under Sentence of Death recorded, or of Transportation, waiting to be removed to the Hulks, work on the Tread-wheels, Three Fourths of the Number in each Yard being on the Wheel, and One Fourth off, as a Relay, so that of Twenty-four Men in a Yard, Eighteen are on the Wheel at a Time, and Six off. The Wheel revolves every Half Minute, when one Man comes off at the Right-hand End of the Wheel, and another gets on at the Left-hand End, the others at the same Time stepping to the Right to fill up the Vacancy occasioned by the Prisoner getting off, and to make Room for the one who is to get on; thus when Twenty-four Men work together, each Man is Nine Minutes at work on the Wheel, and Three Minutes at rest, one Advantage of which is, that they do not stand still long enough unemployed to be injured by the Cold in the Winter-time.

" There are no Skreens to the Tread-wheels. The Time of Labour varies from Ten Hours a Day in Summer to Six Hours a Day in Winter.

Employment.

" Misdemeanants sentenced to hard Labour work in like Manner on the Tread-wheels, but the Proportion of Labour is not too severe; if Twenty-four Prisoners of this Class are at work, Sixteen will be on the Wheel at One Time, and Eight off; that is, Two Thirds at work, and One Third at rest.

" Both convicted Felons and convicted Misdemeanants, sentenced to hard Labour, have their Meals in separate Cells, and are never together in their respective Classes but when at work.

Infirm or Lame Prisoners.

" Infirm or lame convicted Felons, if able, are made to work at a Crank Pump to supply the Prisoners with Water. Six convicted Felons are usually at One Time learning to be Shoemakers, and making and mending Shoes for the Prisoners.

Yardsmen.

" One Felon in each Class of Felons is appointed Yardsman, to keep the Prison clean, &c.

" Another Felon is appointed Barber for all the Felons.

Boys.

" A Class of Boys under Eighteen Years of Age is placed under an older Felon as Yardsman. The Misdemeanants are under the same Regulations, but not being so numerous are not managed exactly the same Way, nor is the same Severity observed towards this Class of Prisoners.

Size of Cells.

" Each Cell is Eight Feet long, Six Feet Six Inches wide, Nine Feet high, with a glazed Window Three Feet high and Two Feet Six Inches wide, which opens on the Inside. In each Cell there is also an Air Brick in the Roof, communicating with a Tube which passes over the Arch from Side to Side of the Building, and is terminated at each End with another Air Brick, so that any heated and impure Air constantly passes off by the Tube, even when the Window is shut; and the Cells are found to be of such equable Temperature that they are not too hot in Summer nor too cold in Winter, as the Prisoners themselves have repeatedly asserted, and as was proved by actual Observation of the Thermometer by the Governor.

Ventilation

Separation.

" Each Prisoner has one of these Cells to himself, except when the Prison is crowded, and then Three or more Prisoners sleep in each of the larger Cells provided for such Emergency.

Solitary Prisoners.

" Each *solitary Prisoner* sleeps in one of these *light Cells*, and in the Day-time he is allowed to walk in a light and airy Passage, about Five Feet wide, which is in front of a Row consisting of Six or Seven such Cells. When a Prisoner is sentenced to any Period less than Fourteen Days in Solitude, he is closely confined to the Cell all the Time, and is not allowed to walk in the Passage.

" No Person can see a Prisoner in *solitary Confinement* except the Officer who has charge of him, the Governor of the Prison, the Surgeon, Chaplain, or Visiting Magistrates.

" The following is an *Extract* from the Magistrates Minute Book:—

Sept. 3, 1823.

" ' The Governor, Mr. Neale, having applied in Writing for Direction from ' the Visitors, whether the Prisoners of this Description were to be allowed to ' have any Person to shave them? to have any Person to instruct them in ' reading? to see those Friends who might wish to visit them? to write or ' receive Letters? it was ordered, That a proper Person be appointed by ' Mr. Neale the Governor, or in his Absence by the Head Turnkey, to shave ' each such Prisoner twice a Week, in the Presence of the Governor, the Head

Mr. T. C. Neale.

'Turnkey, or the Turnkey having special Charge of such Prisoner: That as to Instruction, when the Chaplain shall visit such Prisoners, agreeable to Rule 11. for the Guidance of Chaplains, he shall inform himself of the Degree of Knowledge of reading possessed by each such Prisoner, and shall, if requested by the Prisoner, direct the Schoolmaster to instruct him in his Presence for the Space of Ten Minutes on Two or more Days in each Week, as he the Chaplain shall deem it expedient: That no such Prisoner during the Operation of such Sentence shall be permitted to see any one who may desire to visit him, except under the Authority of a written Order from a Visitor: That he shall not be allowed to write any Letters, excepting for such special Purposes as he shall have stated in Writing to the Governor of the Prison, and which shall have appeared to him to make it reasonable that such Letters be written, the Prisoner's Statement in each Case being laid by the Governor before the Visitors at their next Meeting; and that he shall not be allowed to receive any Letters until the Governor shall, with his Consent, have first perused the same, and shall have decided that for some special Reason manifested by the Contents thereof it is reasonable that he should receive it, the special Cause being made known by the Governor to the Visitors at their next Meeting.'

Routine.

"The daily Routine of Discipline as conducted in Springfield Gaol, when the Prisoners are at hard Labour on the Tread-wheel Ten Hours a Day, is as follows; viz.

"Morning, Six o'Clock, *First Bell rings.*—Unlock the Cells; Prisoners let down into their respective Yards; empty their Cell Pots, wash themselves, &c.; Bread and Beer issued.

"Half past Six, *Second Bell rings.*—To work on the Tread-wheels, &c.; the Yardsmen begin to clean the Cells, Passages, &c., open all the Windows, see that the Beds are properly made preparatory to Inspection by the Governor.

"Half past Eight, *Third Bell rings.*—Prisoners to go to Prayers in the Chapel; afterwards to Breakfast; the convicted Prisoners in solitary Cells.

"Half past Nine, *Fourth Bell rings.*—Prisoners to go to work on the Tread-wheels; Shopkeepers and other Persons bring in Articles for Prisoners before Trial; discharge Prisoners whose Time has expired; whip Prisoners whenever there are any sentenced to such Punishment.

"Twelve o'Clock, *Fifth Bell rings.*—The convicted Prisoners go to School 'till One o'Clock.

"One o'Clock, *Sixth Bell rings.*—Prisoners dine in separate Cells.

"Half past One, *Seventh Bell rings.*—Prisoners go to work on Tread-wheels.

"Three o'Clock, *Eighth Bell rings.*—Boys and Prisoners before Trial go to School.

"Half past Six o'Clock, *Ninth Bell rings.*—Lock up the Prisoners; sup in separate Cells.

"Eight o'Clock.—Lock up Smugglers and Misdemeanants. The Smugglers generally employ themselves making Nets or making Shoes for their Friends, or for Sale by means of a Shopkeeper in the Neighbourhood; the Profits they have for their own Use.

Instruction.

"'Prisoners ordered to be kept in a State of Separation, (*i. e.* Prisoners before Trial and convicted Prisoners are not to meet each other.)

Sept. 3, 1828.

"'It was ordered, That to the Classes subjected to this Order Instruction be given to one Half of such Classes in the Chapel, for the Space of One Hour previous to the Time of Dinner; and that Instruction be given to the other Half of such Classes for the Space of One Hour after the Time of Dinner. The Regulation made on the 3d December 1823 having prescribed that on Sundays Instruction be given to all Prisoners for Two Hours, the one being before and the other after Dinner, the Schoolmaster remaining in the Chapel and in the Presence of such Prisoners the whole Periods of Attendance by the Classes there for the Purpose of receiving such Instruction.

March 5, 1823.

Bibles and Prayer Books to Prisoners on Discharge.

"'The Chaplain is authorized and requested to provide such Prisoners with Bibles and Prayer Books (or either only), upon their leaving the Prison, as he shall think deserving of receiving them, delivering an Account to the Visitors at their last Monthly Meeting before each Quarter Session of the

'Bibles

173

'Bibles and Prayer Books delivered and provided by him in the Quarter, showing the total Cost of such Books. Prisoners before Trial and Prisoners convicted but not sentenced to hard Labour shall be instructed Two Hours daily. *Mr. T. C. Neale.* Dec. 23, 1823.

" 'Prisoners sentenced or adjudged to hard Labour shall be instructed One Hour daily, the Two Hours being taken at such Part or Parts of the Day as the Chaplain shall direct, and the One Hour always succeeding the Time of Dinner, the Time of Dinner, however, being reduced from One Hour to Half an Hour. Reading.

" 'That Instruction in Writing be given only to Prisoners sentenced to Imprisonment for Six Months or more (with or without hard Labour), and that of them it be limited to those who have already passed One Half Part of their several Periods of Imprisonment, and who shall during such Time have conducted themselves in an orderly Manner, and to the Satisfaction of the Chaplain and the Keeper of the Prison, to be stated by them respectively in their Journals upon the Admission of such Prisoners into the Writing School. That the Time devoted to Instruction for writing be included in the Two Hours or the One Hour devoted to reading, and that no Prisoner be instructed in writing 'till he has been sufficiently instructed in reading. That on Sundays Instruction be given to all the Prisoners for Two Hours, the one Hour being before Dinner and the other after. Writing.

" 'That the Chaplain be requested to recommend a Schoolmaster, who shall be a Member of the Church of England, and of good Moral Character, and otherwise properly qualified for his Office. That the Chaplain shall provide proper Books of Instruction, to be obtained from the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and in ordering of which due Attention shall be paid to Economy. That the Chaplain shall moreoever establish Rules for the Guidance of the Schoolmaster in conducting the Schools, availing himself of the Services of the Prisoners qualified to become Assistants to the Schoolmaster, but taking care that no Infringement of the Classification ever takes place on that Account, such Rules having the previous Sanction of the Visiting Justices. Schoolmaster.

" 'That a Schoolmistress be recommended also by the Chaplain, having the like Qualifications, and the like Duties; but who shall be permitted, if the Chaplain shall see Reason and thinks it fit, to extend the Hours of Instruction of Female Prisoners before Trial and not sentenced to hard Labour to Three Hours per Day instead of Two, and of Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour to Two Hours instead of One; and who shall be authorized to instruct such Female Prisoners in writing as the Chaplain, in consideration of their general good Conduct, shall deem deserving of such Benefit.' Schoolmistress. Instruction Females.

" Prisoners were first sentenced to solitary Confinement at Easter Session 1828, since which Time more than 500 Prisoners have undergone that Punishment. The Periods have varied from a few *Days to Nine Months;* out of the whole Number only One died, and he had been imprisoned Twelve Calendar Months, the last in Solitude; he died the Day before his Term of Imprisonment expired. Observations by T. C. Neale, Governor of Springfield Gaol. Solitary Confinement.

" Great Care is necessary in carrying the Sentence of solitary Confinement into execution. If properly attended to it is a most salutary Punishment: capriciously or negligently administered it may become most cruel in its Operation.

" Intense but not excessive Punishment of short Duration is better than milder Punishment of extended Duration, because long Imprisonment invariably affects the Health, sometimes ruins the Constitution, frequently renders Criminals reckless; and where Prisoners are not kept silent or separate from each other, the longer the Imprisonment the worse is the Effect on their Moral Character, and they have frequently returned Home much worse than when they were first sent to Prison. Effects of Imprisonment.

" Solitary Confinement for short Periods renders a Prison more effectual, inasmuch as it prevents the Increase of Numbers; formerly Twelve Calendar Months and upwards was a very common Sentence; now Six Months and still shorter Periods are the usual Terms in this County. If the Period of Imprisonment had not been abridged, either this Gaol must have been enlarged or another one provided. Our average Number is now below the Maximum

Mr. T. C. Neale.

Number the Prison is capable of containing; consequently we have the Means of keeping the Prisoners separate, which could not possibly be the Case if the Prison was crowded.

" Short Imprisonment, *economically* considered, is a great Saving to the County in the Cost of feeding and clothing the Prisoners.

" It also saves great Expense to the Parishes, which frequently have to keep the Families of Prisoners while they are in Custody; and when they are discharged, after long Imprisonment, they are sometimes unfit for Labour, and that to a very protracted Period after their return Home.

" It is of great Consequence to the Prisoners, inasmuch as short Imprisonment preserves their Health, because when they are confined in this Prison longer than Six Months they generally exhibit Symptoms of Disorder of the digestive Organs, Purpura Hœmorrhagica usually supervenes, and if not carefully attended to Death would inevitably follow.

" Short Imprisonment, as before observed, is of *great Moral Consequence* to the Prisoners, as the Degree of Reform or Deterioration in their Characters will very much depend on what Communication they have had with Persons in Confinement; where Prisoners have indiscriminate Association with each other Reformation is out of the Question.

" Long Imprisonment, especially in Solitude, defeats the Intention, because the Discipline in most Cases *must be relaxed*, unless indeed the Sentence is to be carried into execution regardless of the Consequence to the Prisoner, which is certainly not so understood here.

" The Effect which any System of Discipline has ultimately on the Prisoners themselves cannot be ascertained without special Inquiry of the Magistrates, Clergymen, and other Persons who may have Opportunity of observing their Conduct after their Discharge from Prison; but the Gaoler has no Authority to make such Inquiry, nor is it strictly within the Line of his Duty. We know several, who are now filling their Stations in Life respectably, who were convicted of Felony, and confined in this Gaol. How many such there are we know not, much less can we at all venture to say what Effect such Discipline has on those who were never in Confinement, nor how many have been deterred from the Commission of Crime from the Dread of the Punishment inflicted on others.

" Prisoners in general cannot endure *Nine Months* in Solitude; this was especially proved in the Case of Henry Drane* in particular. Some can bear Six Months Solitude, proved particularly in the Case of Thomas Linnet, who was Nine Calendar Months on the Tread-wheel, and then Six Calendar Months in Solitude, and was discharged in apparently good Health. *But Three Months may be very well endured*, i. e. without Injury to Health, even in Winter, and Six Months in the Spring and Summer, or Summer and Autumn, as the Case may be, provided that whenever it is necessary on account of the Prisoner's Health the Governor may be at liberty to relax the Discipline and improve the Diet under the Surgeon's Direction, as Prisoners in Solitude require particular Attention, and are Objects of great Solicitude on the Part of the Governor to watch the Changes in their Health without betraying his Object to them, so that he may be able to call the Attention of the Surgeon to them in Time, because there is a strong Disposition on the Part of the Prisoners to impose on the Surgeon, by pretending to be ill when they are not so, for the Purpose of obtaining Indulgences which would render the Prison a comfortable Place, and the Sentence in a great Measure nugatory. The Governor is therefore bound on the one hand not to allow any unnecessary Indulgence to be obtained by Imposition or Importunity; and on the other hand not to permit a Prisoner to suffer for Want of making his Case known to the Surgeon. The very Cast of the Prisoner's Countenance will indicate the Presence of an insidious Disease, which if not attended to in Time will soon become too formidable for the most skilful to arrest. During a *short Imprisonment a Prisoner may be kept on very low Diet*, e. g. for One Month on Bread and Water only, unless he is ill. He certainly need not have any Meat for Three Months, and then not more than Six Ounces *per Week* for the next Three

Duration of Solitude.

Diet.

* Sentenced by the late Lord Tenterden. The Case is well known to Lord Western, who frequently saw Drane.

Months;

175

Mr. T C. Neale.

Months; but from the End of the first Six Months to the Expiration of his Term of Imprisonment he will require better Diet.* In this Prison no Prisoner is allowed Meat or Soup until the Expiration of the first Three Months.

" The Question of Diet is of great Consequence and Difficulty. If Prisoners are to be subjected to scanty Diet as Part of the Punishment to be inflicted on them, what is the *minimum Weight of solid and liquid Food* necessary to enable a Man to perform a given Quantity of Labour without Injury to Health?

" What Variety of Food should be given to a Prisoner so as to sustain his Health without gratifying his Palate?

" Presuming that due Regard being had to the Quantity and Quality of Food absolutely necessary to support a Prisoner in Health, *what Means can be devised to prevent the wretched Vagrants, and other idle and destitute Persons, from seeking an Asylum in Gaols as Winter Quarters where they are sure to be provided with Lodging, Food, and Clothing (however scanty), which they could not obtain elsewhere.*

" It is obvious that a Man may be kept without Food safely *for One Day;* it would be dangerous to keep him several Days without, and certain Death if the Period of Privation was to be extended much farther. By the same Rule a Man can endure a Degree of Privation for One Month without Injury, although Twelve Months under the same Regimen might ruin his Constitution. And it is on this Principle that the Magistrates have directed that the Prisoners in this Gaol shall be subject to a very strict Diet for the first Three Months after Conviction, especially as it defeats the Object of those who may speculate in the Commission of petty Offences for the sake of the Comforts of a Prison.

" The Construction of the English Prisons in general, as well as of Springfield Gaol, precludes the Possibility of carrying the American System of Discipline into full Operation; as in this Prison, for example, perfect Inspection of the Prisoners when at work in the various Wards and Yards in the Daytime could not be obtained with less than Twenty Officers, and at Night, to insure Silence, as many more would be required. But an Approximation to this System may be made by judiciously placing Rooms for the several Officers in various Part of the Prison, so that they may have as many Prisoners under view at one Time as possible, and yet themselves not be in sight of the Prisoners. Skreens may be also placed on the Tread-wheels; but Objections have been made to them on account of the Expense, and also because they are said to obstruct the Ventilation, thus inducing Disease. As they have been tried at Gloucester and in other Prisons, where they are still in use, there will be no Difficulty in ascertaining whether such Objections are valid or not; but they do not effect the same Purpose with equal Simplicity as placing a large Number of Prisoners under Inspection of a few Officers. Mr. Willson, the Governor of Hertford Gaol, applied to me for Two Officers to be stationed in the Yards with his Prisoners; they were sent, and I believe he finds it the most effectual Means of preserving Silence. But still it is not to be expected that *absolute* Silence can be maintained, because the Governor of an English Prison has not the same Power as an American has, nor can such Power be vested in him. The Means must be adapted in some Measure to Public Feeling; and the following Quotation from '*Stuart's Three Years in America*†,' will show that whatever may be done in America, the Practice must be altered a little before it can be adopted in England.

" ' All Infractions of Rules or Duty are instantly punished by Stripes ' inflicted by the Keeper or Assistant Keeper with a raw Hide Whip, or in ' aggravated Cases, under the Direction of the Keeper or his Deputy alone, ' by a Cat made of Six Strans of small Twine (Six Strands of Line or Cord). ' Conviction follows Offences so certainly and instantaneously that they rarely ' occur, sometimes not once in Three Months.'

" The Magistrates of Essex do not allow a *Finger*, much less a '*raw Hide Whip*,' to be laid on a Prisoner without a formal Charge on Oath, and the Conviction of a Prisoner before a Magistrate of some *repeated or aggravated* Offence, when he may be adjudged to a Punishment at the Discretion of the

* Prisoners might undoubtedly be sustained in Health on Vegetable Diet only; the Difficulty is the Kind and Quantity. T. C. N.

† *Vide* the Foreign Quarterly Journal, July 1833.

Mr. T. C. Neale.

Magistrates, *and not at the Will of the Keeper or his Assistants.* To prevent any Suspicion of a Prisoner being punished vindictively, I drew up a Set of Regulations respecting whipping of Prisoners, and which, with the Approbation of the Magistrates, has been my Guide ever since the Year 1822, nor do we see any Reason to alter it. Magistrates, Physicians, Surgeons, Officers in the Army, and others have occasionally witnessed the Punishments, and have all considered with me that there is sufficient Severity *without* Cruelty."

Are you of opinion that Prisoners who are sentenced to Six Months Imprisonment should be permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?

I think they should not.

Do you remember having in your Custody a Man of the Name of —— —— —— who was removed to the Penitentiary in the Year 1834, convicted of Burglary, and sentenced to Death, which was commuted for Transportation for Life, and subsequently to Seven Years?

I do not recollect him.

If he stated that old Offenders were mixed with younger ones, and that the Springfield House of Correction was a School for every Kind of Crime, was he stating the Truth?

I think he was.

After his Trial he states that Persons who had small Fines and short Sentences were placed with Transports, is that true?

No, that is not so; perhaps he meant by short Fines short Terms of Imprisonment; then he would be right, because Felons of all Grades are put together.

Are you enabled in your Prison to class the Prisoners so as to separate Felons from Misdemeanants?

Yes; but, with respect to the Prisoners before Trial, Felons of all Sorts are confined together; then it is a School of Vice.

Is it your Opinion that the Appointment of Yardsmen or Wardsmen is good in Principle?

It is good in Principle, excepting that in so doing you are obliged to mitigate the Punishment of one Man while you are inflicting it upon another, and that is bad.

Have you ever detected any of the Yardsmen in stealing Provisions or Paper or any Things of that Sort?

I have.

Do you remember whether you did so in the Year 1834?

I dare say it was in the Year 1834; I have had some serious Cases.

Do the Yardsmen receive the Keys from the Officers the first thing in the Morning, and unlock the Prisoners?

The Yardsmen in their own Yards have the unlocking of the inner Doors of the Cells in the Morning, the Turnkeys having the other Keys, so that the Yardsmen unlock the other Prisoners and let them down into the Yard to wash, and they also lock them up again; but there are Two Doors to every Cell.

Do the Rules and Regulations at Springfield permit Prisoners under Sentence to purchase or to receive Provisions from their Friends?

No.

Are they allowed to smoke?

No; they will smoke if they can obtain Tobacco, which they may do by the other Prisoners, that is, the minor Offenders and the Yardsmen.

Have not you Reason to suppose that occasionally the Yardsmen do procure Tobacco and other Things, and sell them to the other Prisoners?

Undoubtedly.

Do you think that they also get Bread and Meat?

With great Difficulty; it is possible perhaps; but I have detected an Officer, the Miller, conniving with them.

Are

Are the Yardsmen allowed to have access all over the Prison?
Only to the Divisions.

Have they access to the Smugglers?
They could formerly, but they cannot now so well, because I have had a Division placed there; but there was a Period when a Man employed upon one Side of the Prison could get to the other.

Do you give Beer to the Prisoners after Trial?
Not now; we did formerly.

Have you many Smugglers confined in your Gaol?
Generally about Ten or Twelve.

Does the Government pay for them?
After they have petitioned, the Board of Customs allows them 6*d.* per Day to support themselves.

Is that paid to them?
Yes.

Would not it be better that it should be paid to the Treasurer of the County, and that the County should furnish them with Food?
Decidedly.

From whom do they purchase Provisions?
We allow Persons to bring Provisions to them.

Does not that seriously affect the Discipline of the Prison?
Certainly.

By a late Act of Parliament the Smugglers may be placed to hard Labour?
Some of them.

Have you a Chaplain at Springfield?
We have.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prison?
He does.

Have you a Schoolmaster?
Yes.

Is he a Prisoner?
No.

Are you of opinion that it is absolutely necessary, with a view of preventing Persons going out of the Gaol worse than when they came in, that a better System of Prison Discipline should be enacted?
I am.

You think that at the present Moment many leave your Prison not better than when committed?
Decidedly worse, we have had in that Prison 600 solitary Prisoners, and in those Cases where they were absolutely in Solitude I consider that they were no worse; but before Trial associating indiscriminately with Men committed for all Sorts of Crimes, they are so liable to Contamination, that I think any thing you could do afterwards would not remedy it.

How long have you been the Governor of the Springfield Prison?
I have been Governor of that Gaol about Ten Years; I have been Fifteen Years in Essex.

How many Prisoners can the Prison contain?
It is built to hold 272.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Tuesday next, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Martis, 5° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

WILLIAM SEYMOUR Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

You are an acting Magistrate at Brighton in the County of Sussex?
I am.

You have paid a great deal of Attention of late Years to Prison Discipline?
For the last Six Years.

Are you of opinion that it is expedient that one uniform System of Discipline should be established in every Gaol and House of Correction in England and Wales?
I think it quite essential and very easy.

Do you think that Inspectors of Prisons ought to be appointed to visit the Prisons, and to report from Time to Time to the Secretary of State?
I have read attentively for several Years all the Reports of the Prisons in Ireland, and the Effect produced by Inspectors there convinces me that they will be of the greatest Consequence.

Do you not think it would be expedient, for the sake of securing Uniformity of Discipline, that the Rules and Regulations of Prisons in future should be submitted to the Secretary of State for his Approval, instead of, as at present, the Judges of Assize?
I think without such a Sort of Reference Uniformity would be impossible.

How many Inspectors do you think it would be necessary to appoint for England and Wales?
I have not considered that, but I apprehend it would be necessary to have more Inspectors in the first instance than it ever would be afterwards.

What Power do you think should be given to them?
I think the Power should be literally nothing more than Inspection and Report to the Secretary of State, for I think if more was given they would not assist but supersede the Magistrates, that the Magistrates would not act with them; and I think the Effect of Inspectors should be leaving the Magistrates with the same Power they now have, under Rules and Regulations, and that the Magistrates should see them well performed; and after a short Time Inspectors would have nothing more to do than to report that they are performed; whereas, there being no Inspectors now, I believe there is not a Prison in the Kingdom where the Rules and Regulations have not been broken.

Have you frequently visited Lewes House of Correction?
Yes; I have been a Visiting Justice several Years.

Do you think the silent System, as carried into effect in the Lewes House of Correction, is a good System?
I think it a very good System; at present it is imperfect, it has not been carried to the Extent we could wish; it is only within this Year we have completed a sufficient Number of Cells, and without that Number of Cells it is absolutely impossible to produce One Period of Silence that I should consider a Sine quâ non, which is the sleeping in a separate Cell, and Silence for so many Hours; then they should take their Meals in separate Cells; and whether on the Tread-mill, or whether in Employment, or if they can maintain themselves, when by the present Act of Parliament they are not obliged to work at all, they should be compelled to Silence. There are Two other Sets of Men, those sentenced to hard Labour, they go upon the Tread-mill, and others

W. Seymour, Esq.

employed in what is called Labour not severe, which is in Manufacture; in both those Instances Silence should be procured: upon the Tread-wheel, that can be procured only by Divisions; and in the Manufacture it will require considerable Care to accomplish it, but I have no Doubt it can be accomplished, and that it is essentially necessary. I would add, that I consider it applicable to all Classes of Prisoners. I know a Question has arisen, whether it would be desirable as regards Prisoners for Trial. The Conclusion I have come to is his, there can be no Doubt that Prisoners who are actual Criminals, though not convicted, are very improper Persons to associate with others; and as to Persons who are innocent it must be their first Desire to be separated from Criminals, and therefore as regards Persons for Trial no Person committed for Trial can object to not having Communication with other Prisoners.

Do you not believe that, unless there is Silence and Separation, many Persons go out of the Prisons much worse than when they were committed?
Decidedly; I think there are no Terrors of Punishment that would countervail the great Mischief arising from the Contamination.

Do you think it is expedient that Prisoners should be allowed to receive any Prison Earnings?
I think not, and I think so in One Particular remarkably: a Man who has had the longest Sentence we are to presume is the Person who has committed the greatest Crime; that Person would receive a greater Remuneration than the Man committed for a shorter Time, in proportion to his Offence; and another Thing, a Man may be committed for Six Months as adapted to a particular Offence, but he may be a very great Criminal, and only convicted of a smaller Offence from some Peculiarity about the Law. I would give an Instance of that which occurred the other Day. Two Men were taken up and indicted for wounding a Soldier; they were indicted under Lord Lansdowne's Act, and were acquitted; there was a reasonable Doubt, whether, under the Circumstances, if the Party had died, it would have been Murder, and that is said to be the Definition in regard to the Felony; if the Man had died, and it would not have been Murder, then it is only a Misdemeanor. Those Men were afterwards tried for a Misdemeanor by Order of Lord Lyndhurst, convicted and sentenced to Imprisonment and hard Labour for Two Years. Those Men were guilty of an Offence which in fact would have amounted to Manslaughter if the Prosecutor had died, yet those Men would have had larger Remuneration; though if they had had their due Reward for moral Turpitude, they probably would have been transported.

Is it not also the cleverest Man that gets the largest Amount of Earnings, and not the best Character?
Certainly.

Do you think that the Gaolers and Officers of the Prisons ought to receive any thing except their Salaries and travelling Expenses?
Decidedly not. I have observed Instances in which I think it has led to Temptation incapable of Resistance, as regards Relaxation of Discipline.

Where the Gaoler and his Officers receive Part of the Prisoners Earnings, is it not their Interest to have as many Prisoners as possible, and to work them to the utmost?
That would be the natural Consequence; and I remember seeing that stated in some of the Reports as to Prison Discipline in America; that is the great Objection to what has been done there; in One or Two Instances they have farmed the Prisoners, and inasmuch as they have farmed them they have necessarily been allowed to introduce their own Discipline, and that, I believe, will be found to consist of Acts of great Cruelty: however, it produced this Result, that it showed what could be done in point of productive Labour.

You are aware that at present Smugglers receive a certain Sum of Money from the Government, and find their Subsistence; do you not think that Allowance ought to be paid to the Treasurer of the County, and that the County should furnish the Smugglers with Provisions?
Decidedly. I have an Impression that we have made such an Order in the Lewes House of Correction, that the Money shall be paid to the Gaoler, that he shall maintain them, and take the Money.

That

That he shall maintain them at the County Expense, and pay the Money to the Treasurer?

Yes. There are what are called Revenue Prisoners, and also in the County Gaol all Persons under Sentence of Transportation, the Moment their Sentence of Death is recorded, or they are under Sentence of Transportation, they are maintained at the Expense of the Government; they receive, I think, 4½*d.* a Day; and 'till the Visiting Justices interfered about Three Years ago the Prisoners of that Description had, I believe, the Gaol Allowance in addition at Horsham, and used to cook their own Provisions in their Day-rooms, and had Fires in the Middle of August for that Purpose.

The same Practice prevailed as to the Manner in which the Prisoners were allowed for their Maintenance in both Cases?

Yes, in both Cases.

No other Prisoners under Sentence are in the County of Sussex allowed to receive any thing but the Gaol Allowance, excepting by Order of the Surgeons?

No other.

Do you think it advisable that smoking should be permitted in the Criminal Prisons of this Country?

Certainly not; we prohibited it Three or Four Years ago. They are so tenacious on the Subject of Tobacco, it requires the most strict Search possible to detect the Concealment; the Poachers particularly in many Instances have it bound round in the Waistbands of their Trowsers, and every possible Means are taken to conceal it; that is with a view to chewing as well as smoking.

Are you of opinion that any Luxury whatever should be given to Prisoners under Sentence, excepting by Order of the Surgeon?

Certainly not.

Do you not think it would be advisable that the Surgeon, when he increases the Gaol Allowance, should state in his Journal the Reasons for so doing?

Certainly; we always require that at Lewes.

You were present at the General Quarter Sessions of the County of Sussex a short Time since?

Yes, at Brighton.

Did not the Magistrates, previous to the Election of the Chaplain for the County Gaol, decide that no Gentleman should be elected Chaplain who did not undertake to devote the whole of his Time to the Gaol, and that he should not hold any other Preferment?

Certainly; it was decided by Forty-three to Seven that that should be the Case.

He was also informed that the Magistrates expected him to perform Divine Service twice, with Two Sermons, on the Sunday, and to read Morning and Evening Prayers every Day, and to devote not less than Three Hours a Day to that Gaol?

Yes, on the Average, including those specific Duties, so that he might give more on One Day than on another, and have occasional Absence, but that on the Average he should give Three Hours a Day; and I am anxious to advert to that Part, because there have been Complaints made upon it; and supposing the Legislature should be of opinion that the Chaplains should have no other Duty, I cannot think the Clergyman ought to say it was a Hardship that he was to give Three Hours a Day to Ecclesiastical Duty, having One-and-twenty Hours for every other Purpose of Life.

What is the Number of Prisoners?

The average Number throughout the last Year was Forty-four, so that if it took Five Minutes for each, it would have been more than the Three Hours; therefore, supposing the Instructions of the Chaplain are to be available, you cannot give less than Five Minutes a Day. If he chooses to give Ten Minutes to Half the Number he may do it; but, as regards the Prisoners on the one hand, or the Duty on the other, it appears to me that the one is not onerous, and that the other is at the Minimum.

W. Seymour, Esq.

In the average Number of Prisoners you include Debtors?
Yes.

The Salary of the Chaplain of Horsham Gaol is 160*l.* per Annum?
Yes.

The Gentleman who was appointed the other Day had been for some Time the Curate of the large Parish of Horsham?
Yes.

Do you mean to say, that you think Three Hours a Day is sufficient for the Clergyman to do his Duty satisfactorily?
No; it is made the Minimum; there has been very great Clamour at the Intimation that Three Hours was required.

Do you think it absolutely necessary, by way of ensuring Silence, that there should be Divisions on the Crank and Tread Wheels?
Every where.

What is your Opinion as to the Expediency of abolishing Day-rooms?
They can be of no Use provided there are separate Cells; Silence cannot be produced without abolishing Day-rooms, for if there are Day-rooms there must be a Keeper in them; that must have the Effect, such as was mentioned by the late Chaplain at Horsham Gaol; by the Prisoners being always with the Turnkey the Prisoners would demoralize the Turnkey; without the Turnkey there can be no Silence, and with the Turnkey they would make him the worst Man in the Prison very soon.

Do you mean that in those Three Hours the Clergyman is supposed to attend he is to instruct the juvenile Offenders?
It is considered that he examines them and causes them to be instructed, but that the Instruction he gives is incident to the Catechism, and so on; that is within the Three Hours; and I am very anxious to impress upon your Lordships, that instead of the Justices for the County of Sussex having been thought to have required that which was too much, they have literally put it at too short a Period. How a zealous Clergyman, anxious to do his Duty as a Clergyman, entering the Profession as a Christian Clergyman for the Benefit of Mankind, and having no other exigent Duty, and prohibited from it as a Clerical Duty, can think that with Persons locked up, the Majority of them Criminals, and who it is intended by the Legislature should be benefited by the Religious Means of Instruction, it is too much to give them Three Hours a Day, leaving Twenty-one Hours for himself, I cannot conceive. With the greatest Reverence for the Profession and its Members I am quite astonished at the Resistance.

Among the Duties to be performed by the Chaplain does it occur to you that it would be expedient that he should lecture the Prisoners in Classes?
Certainly.

That he should not only lecture them in Classes, but that he should endeavour, as well as he can, to ascertain what Instruction they have received from the Classes?
Certainly; and on that Principle I think that in some Cases less Time would do; but the Impression that I have is, that, except by way of Collections, if I may so call it, the efficient Duty to be done is by having the Prisoner alone.

You would prepare them alone for the Classes?
Certainly. At Lewes, where our Number of Prisoners is greater, our Chaplain's minimum Duty is Four Hours, and the Salary 200*l.* a Year.

You were understood to express a very decided Opinion that the Separation of convicted Prisoners is desirable; are you also of opinion that the Separation of Prisoners committed for Trial is desirable?
Certainly.

Is it your Opinion that Prisoners committed for Trial should have the Privilege of employing themselves in the Prison, or being employed in the Prison, at the Discretion of the Visiting Justices?
I think it should be compulsory, as it is now, provided they cannot maintain

maintain themselves; if they maintain themselves, then I apprehend any Employment, Literature or Science, or whatever they please, Persons for Trial might have in all the Prisons: the Gaol Act, as it stands, appears to me to comprehend every thing under that Head. Persons for Trial, if they cannot maintain themselves, are maintained by the County; they are to be employed in Labour not severe. Persons in a superior Station of Life, charged with Crimes, sent to Prison, can maintain themselves, and then they may employ themselves as they would out of Prison, but in a limited Space. *W. Seymour Esq*

What is your Opinion as to the permitting Prisoners committed for Trial to employ themselves, without destroying the Discipline of the Gaol, when not required to work for their own Sustenance?

I see no Objection at all to that.

What Power do you conceive the Judges have, on the Application of the Magistrates, of enforcing Discipline under the 4 G. 4. c. 64., with respect to Prisoners committed for Trial?

My Impression at the present Moment is, that they have no Power to superadd any thing to the present Powers that exist under the Gaol Act; there is, however, a Clause which says, that in addition to this,—and I think it is applicable to all Prisoners,—the Justices in Sessions shall have Power to make additional Rules and Regulations for the Discipline of the Prison, to be approved of by the Judges, not contrary to the Provisions of this Act; it is Section Twelve; it says, be it further enacted, that "additional Rules for the Government of such Prisons respectively, and for the Duties to be performed by the Officers of the same, as to them may seem expedient, provided that no such further or additional Rules shall be enforced until the same shall have been submitted in London and Middlesex to the Two Chief Justices, and elsewhere to the Justices of Gaol Delivery or of Great Sessions respectively, at some Gaol Delivery or Great Sessions to be held after the making such Rules, and until such Chief Justice, or Justices of Gaol Delivery or of Great Sessions respectively, shall have subscribed a Certificate or Declaration that they do not see any thing contrary to Law therein; provided always, that all such Rules and Regulations shall be consistent with and conformable to the Rules and Regulations in this Act contained;" and it has appeared to me that that Clause means this, that they shall not restrict Discipline to less than is contained in this Act; "provided always, that all such Rules and Regulations shall be consistent with and conformable to the Rules and Regulations in this Act contained;" that if that Clause had not provided that, there would have been no Reason to submit the Regulations of the Justices to the Judges, but that they are Regulations which appear to be judged of, whether they were in restraint of the Legislative Provisions; it was then very proper that the Judges should be consulted: and I would remark, that the Judges, in signing their Names to new Regulations, and indeed to all the Regulations, do not say we approve of these Rules, but their Signature is, we do not find any thing contrary to Law in these Regulations; that is the Form of their Signature to all Regulations.

With respect to all Regulations that the Magistrates do submit to the Judges relating to the Prisons, with respect to solitary Confinement, with respect to Diet, or with respect to Labour, both with regard to Prisoners committed for Trial, and the Prisoners under Sentence, how far do you think the Judges have that Authority?

I think they have the Authority to the full Extent, unless it is an Infraction of some of the Enactments or the Principles of this Act. I would illustrate it in this Way: the Act makes no Provision with regard to the Separation of Prisoners by Day; now I should say, in the Abstract, that when you send a Man to Prison the Gaoler has a Right to provide a Room for that Man, and with the Exercise prescribed in the Gaol Act; they say you shall do nothing else, that is your Room, and that is your Airing-yard, and you shall have your Meals there; there is no Provision whatever that they shall associate, except the Implication arising from mentioning Day-rooms; the Statute is imperative with regard to a Separation by Night; the Statute expressly says, they shall have a separate Cell for every Prisoner as far as possible; and that "as far as possible" has occasioned that, with One or Two Exceptions, there are not Cells enough in any Prison in the Kingdom:

W. Seymour, Esq.

Supposing in the enforcing of Silence it is found difficult to carry it into effect without the Infliction of solitary Confinement, and as the Gaoler himself has the Power of solitary Confinement for Three Days, for an Infraction of Prison Discipline, is it not competent to the Judges, if applied to by the Magistrates, to order solitary Confinement for a more extended Period?

I think it is not solitary Confinement, but Separation; the solitary Confinement, when inflicted, is the Punishment for Disobedience of Rules; a Person is locked up, and, unless the Prison Regulations allow of it, in the Day he speaks to no one, Keepers and all; but the Gaoler, by Authority of the Visiting Justices, sanctioned by the Judges, may say, I conceive, as a Matter of Discipline, you shall have your Meals separately, but I do not think he should say "You shall be all Day in that Cell;" I do not think the Judges could sanction that; that is solitary Confinement, but the other is Separation during the Night; and that induces me to say, that it appears to me that the Course pursued in America is the wise Course, which is the middle Course, between solitary Confinement for a Length of Time, Night and Day, and Separation at Night, and working in Company, but in Silence.

Is it not your Opinion that convicted Prisoners should be prohibited from receiving any Food other than the Gaol Allowance?

Certainly.

What is your Opinion as to the Propriety of permitting them to receive Visits and Letters from their Friends?

I think, with regard to convicted Prisoners, there should be a very great Restraint; that the Non-communication with Friends should be deemed Part of the Punishment.

The Visiting Magistrates have the Power of preventing their receiving Visits from their Friends?

Certainly.

Would you take away the Power from the Magistrates of granting it?

No; but I think it should be under a much greater Restraint than now is practised. It is very much the Case that the Order is given as a Matter of course; that is productive of very great Mischief; it completely neutralizes the Instructions of a good Chaplain; it takes away from the necessary Severity that was intended by the Imprisonment and by the Sentence, and is a constant Irritation. I think the expecting to see Friends, and to complain and make Petitions, is a Distraction from the Influence which the Punishment was intended to produce.

It also takes up the Time of the Officers of the Prison?

Yes; it paralyzes Discipline altogether. If in every Prison a separate Cell is required for every Prisoner at Night and at Meals, with a Privy and Water laid on to every Cell, and a regulated artificial Warmth provided for the whole Prison, and if constant Silence is enforced, then I think the best possible Prison Discipline may be progressively accomplished; but if any one of those Desiderata is omitted, then I think no good Prison Discipline can be made to take effect.

Are you of opinion that it is expedient that a Tribunal should be established for the Trial of minor Offences and juvenile Offenders?

I think not.

Have the goodness to state your Reasons?

The Tribunals would divide themselves into Two Parts essentially, the one as to great Towns and populous Districts, and the other rural Districts; but it appears to me that if the Legislature should enact Separation and Silence, with Inspectors, that would destroy all Contamination in Gaols, and the Moment that is done there could be no better Place in the World for a juvenile Offender, or for Persons of minor Offences, than that well-regulated Prison, even previously to Trial. But another Thing which I am anxious to impress upon the Committee is, that there should be intermediate Sessions held throughout the Kingdom in every County, and I venture to say there is no Difficulty in that in comparison with a summary Tribunal. If intermediate Sessions are held no Person can be imprisoned more than Six Weeks before Trial. Now, as far as regards the Punishment of what are called minor Offences, I have

no

no Conception how any one can à priori judge of that. Every Larceny is subject to Seven Years Transportation. Now, supposing a Tribunal to be established for what are called minor Offences, I believe it has always been supposed that Parties should have the Privilege of saying they will be tried at the Assizes or Sessions instead; if there are summary Trials the Punishment must be restricted; then what is the State when the Offender comes before the Magistrate; the Magistrate says, "This is an Offence we may try with Three Justices and a small Jury;" if there are Two Magistrates to agree they must have Three present; you put it to him, whether he will be tried now or go to the Sessions, saying, "If you go to the Sessions they may transport you; if you come before us we cannot give you more than Three Months Imprisonment and Whipping," supposing that is the Nature of the Punishment; you then give him no Option, for no Man will go to a Tribunal where he will be transported, instead of being tried by a Court of limited Jurisdiction, supposing that the Court is restricted in point of Amount of Punishment. Then I would look at that in this Way: supposing that a juvenile Offender under Fifteen Years of Age is brought for a small Offence, as it is alleged; the Magistrate says, "I think this is a fit Case for summary Punishment; we will meet on such a Day:" now, throughout the Kingdom it will be found that, except in very large Towns, in the Majority of Instances there is no Petty Sessions above once a Fortnight. The Moment you have said the Case shall be tried by us in Petty Sessions you fix the Day. What are you to do with him in the meantime? He must go to Prison. Suppose he goes to a Corporation Prison, a local Prison, that is the worst Prison in the World; suppose you send him to a County Prison, you have Ten or Fifteen Miles to send him, and he is to be brought back to be summarily tried; then the Expense to the County would be very great indeed. Then again, when he is brought to Trial there is all the same Machinery there would be at the Sessions, with the accumulated Inconvenience of the Persons summoned as Jurymen having to attend more frequently, so that the Panel at Sessions and Assizes will come round more frequently. In addition to that, he has to be tried by resident Magistrates, and, as far as regards resident Magistrates, it is impossible that the Punishment should not be influenced by Partiality or Prejudice. With regard to the Effect of summary Trials, the only Advantage that I am aware of which can be suggested with regard to juvenile Offenders is the Supposition that corporal Punishment without Imprisonment would be a sufficient Punishment for certain Offences. It then becomes important to consider of what Class those juvenile Offenders are. The greatest part of them who have come under my Observation locally in the very large Town of Brighton, or in the Metropolis itself, are Lads who have no Employment whatever; their Parents, who are poor, have turned them out of Doors in the Morning to get their Livelihood how they can. Supposing the Offence is what is called of trifling Value; I will suppose an Instance which has occurred to me, such as the stealing of Fruit or Cakes out of Shops, which is a boyish Kind of Theft,—the stealing Tops and Toys; he would very naturally be ordered to be flogged. Perhaps he goes back among his boyish Companions; and if you look to Boys in that Station of Life, what is it to effect? Some are careless about it, and some make it Matter of Bravado. Then I apprehend in that Case Whipping does no Good. With others it would be Matter of Taunt. Then there are others on whom it would be injurious; a Boy who has his Back scored, while in that State falls among Thieves; they tell him that he is injured, that he has been punished improperly and cruelly, and that the best Thing for him is to take up the Thief's Life altogether. The Reasoning is, I am aware, sophistical, but they will adopt it. In the Central Court there is now a Session every Month or Five Weeks, therefore the Imprisonment is very short; and if Separation and Silence are enforced, a summary Trial would be all Supererogation. Then suppose another Thing done, which I wish your Lordships would have the kindness to consider: it is a very common Thing now, partly arising from the contaminating Nature of Prisons, that for the First Offence Judges and presiding Magistrates inflict very small Punishment, such as a Month's hard Labour: the Effect of that is, that the Person who wishes to suborn others to Mischief will say, "You will get only a Couple of Months." As a Rule, I am very strongly inclined to think it would be well to inflict a very severe Punishment at once, if you do not contaminate him; say Six Months. During

W. Seymour, Esq.

that Time you may make an Impression on the Mind, and you may understand what solitary Imprisonment and Absence from bad Company and intoxicating Liquors will do; they may understand that the next Time they will be transported for Life; and if any thing can produce good Impressions for the future it is in that Way. But if you inflict something which is forgotten as soon as it is over, no Good is done. There is a very curious Fact I have been led to ascertain in consequence of hearing this Proposal for summary Trial. In the last Year, in the County of Sussex, including Brighton, which has from its Nature, in proportion to its Inhabitants, as profligate a Set of juvenile Offenders as any Town in the Kingdom, there have been but Two tried at Assizes and Sessions for the last Year, beginning with Easter and ending with Easter, for simple Felony (I say simple Felony, because if it were compound Felony it would never be given to the summary Jurisdiction); one was a Boy of the Name of Coleman, who, because it was his First Offence, was sentenced to Two Months Imprisonment and a Whipping; he was brought up again in Two Months for stealing, and sentenced to Transportation. Another, a Girl of Twelve Years, indicted, with an elder Sister, for obtaining Money under false Pretences, and the Girl of Twelve was admitted King's Evidence. So that in the whole County of Sussex the last Year there was but One tried for a simple Felony; but then I am bound to say there are a great Number of Boys brought up charged with Offences of such a Nature that, on account of their Youth and the simple Nature of their Offences, and the Contamination of the Prisons, were discharged,—I mean, for stealing Apples and Things of that Description; they would have come under the Description of those to be tried summarily: but in Cases where Persons required Prosecutions to go on, but One was tried for simple Felony. Therefore as regards the County I do not believe that it is demanded; as regards the great Metropolis it is partly provided for by the Central Criminal Court. If you enforce Separation and Silence I think the Machinery attendant on summary Trials is so great and so complicated and expensive that it would never answer the Purpose in any way whatever. I would advert to another thing in the Country, that the greater Part of the Magistracy of the greatest Importance, who have the highest Station and are the best qualified by mixing in the World, are absent Six Months in the Year; and there comes the Observation I have to make, not invidiously, but it is Human Nature; the resident Magistrates know the Prisoners, they know their Characters, they know whether they have been acting rightly or wrongly on other Occasions, and it is very difficult to divest the Mind so as to form an unbiassed Judgment in such Cases.

You say that besides the juvenile Offenders who were tried and convicted, there were others who were not tried; were they discharged by Proclamation?

No; Indictments were found against all those who were committed, but there were Cases of Boys brought up for stealing Apples, and so on; the Magistrates recommended that they should be taken out and flogged; the Parent has said, "Sir, we have flogged them 'till we are tired; we have tied them to the Bed-post and flogged them; we have taken their Shoes away." But the Increase of juvenile Offenders has been arithmetical within the last Twenty Years; the Population has increased One Third; that Increase must be all juvenile; and there is a larger Proportion of juvenile Offenders than there was before then. As regards the Metropolis, the Accumulation of Inhabitants has been infinitely greater in proportion than it was formerly. Then again, the Poor Law Commission, and all the Results of that elaborate Inquiry established this, that the Increase of the Poor has been large in proportion to the whole Population. Then, with regard to the poor Labourer and his Wife, nobody complains of relieving them; but the Question is as to the Four or Five or Six Children; they are destitute of Religious and Moral Instruction. With a Population all young and poor the great Majority will be Criminals from Necessity. Attempts will probably be made with regard to Education in the Nature of Prevention, and something as to Emigration opening other Sources of Labour; and if the Prisons are attended to, so as to give Separation and Silence, and Contamination be prevented, I would humbly submit to your Lordships that they cannot be sent anywhere better than to the Prisons. With intermediate Sessions I do not see that any Inconvenience would arise. I am inclined to think one of the Objections to intermediate

W. Seymour, Esq

Sessions which is made is, we cannot get a proper Chairman. Sometimes it is thought desirable that Professional Men should preside. Now I am quite satisfied, that, if your Lordships will take it into consideration, there is a Solution of all the Difficulty if you were to have Barristers,— I will call them Recorders, not Chairmen,—Barristers to preside in the Courts of Session, leaving the Chairman of the Sessions to be what he now is, generally the most important Nobleman or Gentleman of the County. You would have no Difficulty at all; the Salary would not be large; in point of fact, if that were done it would have this Advantage, you might have the same Legal Knowledge presiding at Sessions as is required in the Central Court. In the Report on the Criminal Law there is a little Discussion on the Head of Theft, showing the Approximation of Twenty or Thirty Cases so refined in their Nature, and which has nothing to do with the Statute Law, that none but a Lawyer can approach. As to a Person not accustomed to it, it is no Disrespect to him to say, that he cannot approach it; and there must be the same Judgment in respect of stealing an Apple as with respect to stealing Jewels worth a Million of Money. Then if we have Barristers not under Thirty-five nor above Sixty, and with a Salary to be fixed by the Secretary of State, there is this Advantage: a Gentleman comes from London, he takes his Seat, he knows nothing of the Prisoner, he is free from Partiality and Prejudice, and tries by Law. The Salary would be very small. A Gentleman would be very glad to be placed in that respectable Situation, and to be placed in Connexion with the Aristocracy of the Country, where, if he disclosed Assiduity and Judgment, he knows it would be rewarded in another Way. It would ensure Regularity of Attendance; and instead of summary Trials in the Manner suggested, intermediate Sessions would provide for that, and there would be no new Jurisdiction introduced contrary to the Principles of the Constitution. We are peculiarly circumstanced in Sussex, because at Lewes, which is the only Sessions I attend, Mr. Partington, the Chairman for Twenty-nine Years, was a Barrister, a most accurate Lawyer: it is true he lives in the Neighbourhood. Mr. Serjeant D'Oyly, who lives very little in Sussex, assisted; for we have always Two Courts; he is a very eminent Lawyer; he has gone the Circuit for the Judges more than once. Therefore, to a certaint Extent, they come very much uninfluenced by Locality; and also their Knowledge of the Law, and their previous Practice, make them most independent Judges. Mr. Partington has lately resigned, and Mr. Serjeant D'Oyly takes one Court, and in consequence of the Death of Mr. Courthope they have done me the Honour to request me to take the other. In the Western Division of Sussex we have a most excellent Lawyer: Mr. Serjeant D'Oyly is Chairman of the Quarter Sessions. The Benefits I have seen derived from that have made me think it worthy Imitation.

You consider it of the highest Importance that Punishments, as far as possible, should be proportioned to the Moral Turpitude of the Offence, and that the public Sentence should be proportioned to the Offence with which the Individual is publicly charged?

I have some little Doubt of that. I think it is the Practice required by the Judges, that the Gaoler always lays a Paper on the Judges Table as to how many Times the Prisoner has been in Prison; this is referred to after Trial, and before Sentence is passed; not his general Character, but attaching to his having been punished on former Occasions, and in what Manner. I will take the Case of simple Felony: Seven Years being the Maximum of Transportation, supposing Two Men were tried, and the Moral Turpitude the same; but with regard to one a Master will sometimes say, "If you will inflict a slight Punishment I will take him again;" the other Man, if you appeal to the Police Officers, they shake their Heads; they do not say he is a bad Fellow, but they can say nothing for him; then you look at the Paper, and see, "imprisoned at such a Time for Poaching, imprisoned such a Time for stealing Turnips, imprisoned so long for an Assault," and you find, perhaps, he has been imprisoned Eight or Ten Times; then, although, technically speaking, you should give him only the Punishment for the specific Offence, that should be apportioned with reference to the Offender, and what will deter him from future Crime. Therefore I am free to say, on those Occasions I should suggest to have one Man receive Two Months Imprisonment, or, if we had thought it almost an accidental Circumstance, a Fortnight solitary; but I should give

W. Seymour, Esq.

the other Man Twelve Months and a Whipping, always bearing in mind that that is less than the Seven Years Transportation.

The Reason you have stated for giving One Offender who had committed One Quality of Offence a greater Punishment than another is most reasonable; but it would be probably made known to the Public that there were such Reasons?

Just so.

The Question related to the Public Effect produced by the Sentence, whether you do not consider it of the highest Importance that the Enormity of the Offence should be met by adequate Punishment, and that in the view of the Public the Punishment should be as nearly as possible apportioned to the Offence?

Decidedly; and practically speaking that has happened over and over again, that a Gentleman has said, "Oh, that is a very bad Fellow!" The Answer has been, "Oh, we have nothing to do with that!" Then, in pronouncing Sentence, it is uniform, that if a Punishment is a little more than would be usual for the Nature of that particular Offence, the Chairman, in addressing the Prisoner, says, "It is impossible for us to inflict a lenient Sentence, because it appears that you have been in Gaol so many Times." That is always enumerated. It does so happen that the Reporters do not always state that; and then we hear that a Man is sent for a Twelvemonth for stealing a Couple of Ducks, and another sent for Two Months for stealing a Couple of Chickens.

You do not mean to say that the Magistrates in coming to that Decision, whether guilty or not, are influenced by their previous Knowledge, but only in the Infliction of Punishment?

Just so; the only Difference I should say is, that if the Person who presides happens to know of it, his Mind may be more liable to Bias upon the Trial; ergo, if we have a Professional Man who comes from a Distance, that is a Protection against it.

In recommending intermediate Sessions have you contemplated the ancient Statute, which appears to entitle the County to Three Gaol Deliveries a Year—the Statute of Edward?

No; I have a strong Impression that that does not exist, for this Reason; the Constitution of Grand Juries was in consequence of the Iter not coming for Three and Four Years at a Time, and therefore the Grand Jury was set to inquire to liberate those who were apprehended, by summary Process, instead of waiting for the Iter.

Supposing such Statute to exist, are you not of opinion that the Enforcement of that Statute, or carrying it into effect, would be attended with great Advantages?

I confess I have some Doubt about that. I think that if Professional Men were appointed to preside in the Nature of a Court authorized, as they now are, to try Felonies of every Description short of the Punishment of Death, and Regard being had to the Fact that some judicial Knowledge and Discrimination is necessary for the simplest as well as the highest Felony, that intermediate Sessions would accomplish more, by reason that there would be many of them, instead of a Third Assize: and this is to be remarked, that in the Report of the Committee on County Rates, in the House of Commons, they are so strongly of that Opinion, that they have reported, among other Things, a Recommendation that Justices shall not pursue the usual Course of committing to the First Tribunal in point of Time, but actually try every thing at Quarter Sessions short of Death. Previous to the Statute of Philip and Mary, Magistrates had not the Power of taking Depositions on Oath and committing for Trial, and, therefore, previous to that Time the increased Number of Assizes would be of very great Importance.

Are you aware that by a late Decision of the Judges the Chairman at the Quarter Sessions in the Case where a Prisoner is indicted for a Second Offence is bound to read to the Jury, previous to their considering their Verdict, the Certificate which has been given in, that the Man has been before convicted, and to prove the Identity of the Prisoner?

Yes.

W. Seymour, Esq.

Do you not think that Discourse prejudices the Jury, and leads them to believe that the Prisoner is guilty of the Second Offence?

I think it is very injurious, and I should say very unjust. I should remark there was great Difference of Opinion upon the Expediency and the Legality of doing that, and I spoke to ——————— about it, and he consulted the Judges in Serjeants Inn, and they declared that they are compellable by Law to have that submitted before the Case goes to a Jury.

Do you not think that the more proper Course would be to say nothing of it to the Jury until they had pronounced their Verdict, and then to charge the Jury whether they believed the Prisoner to be the Individual who had before been convicted?

I think it should be a supplementary Indictment, and then the Thing is accomplished the Moment the first Verdict is given?

In point of fact, is not that very frequently practised by the Magistrates?

No; by the Act of Parliament it is included in the Indictment,—"The Jurors of our Lord the King add, that the Man was at such a Time convicted of such an Offence." We always put it to the Jury first, and then we presented the supplementary Evidence; but we consulted the Judges, and they have pronounced an unanimous Opinion that it is imperative that it shall all go to the Jury together.

Judging from your own Experience, do you know whether that is the Practice invariably pursued now?

I believe it is so, from the Fact of its having been recommended by the Judges. The Chairmen of Quarter Sessions receive their Instructions upon the Point.

Supposing it is contained in the Indictment, does it follow as a Matter of course that it will become known to the Jury?

It is read to them; the Clerk of the Peace reads it in this Way, "There is a Second Count, charging the Prisoner with having been guilty of Felony before."

Is it necessary, with reference to the Legality of the Indictment, that it should be contained in the Indictment?

Yes, or they could not give him the Double Punishment.

How long is it since this Determination of the Judges has been made known?

About a Year and a Half.

Do you not know that it has a great Effect with the Jury?

I am afraid so; it would have upon me, that I could not divest my Mind of it. I believe the Judges were decidedly of opinion it would be expedient to have it as a supplementary Charge, but that they were bound by the Words of the Act of Parliament.

Will you turn to the Case of Rex v. William Jones, in Barrington and Payne's Reports, and read it to the Committee, at Page 391?

"Rex v. William Jones. The Prisoner was indicted for stealing a Watch, the Property of Philip Richards; and the Indictment charged that the Prisoner had been previously convicted of a Larceny at Carmarthen Sessions. Parke J. (in summing up) 'I used never to allow the Jury to know any thing of the previous Conviction 'till they had given their Opinion on the Charge upon which the Prisoner was to be tried, because I thought, that if the Jury were aware of the previous Conviction it was (to use a common Expression) like trying a Man with a Rope about his Neck. However, the Judges have had a Meeting on the Subject, at which Thirteen of them were present, and they held that my Practice and that of another learned Judge was wrong; and the Opinion of the Judges is, that the previous Conviction must be proved before the Prisoner is called on for his Defence.'—Verdict, Guilty, March 28th, 1831."

What is your Opinion with respect to extending the Power of taking Bail in Cases of Felony?

My Impression is that it would be a most dangerous Thing, and for the Reasons I will state. The smallest Felony is liable to a Transportation for Seven Years; now what Kind of Bail could a Magistrate take as countervailing that

W. Seymour, Esq

Risk which he was called upon to provide against. If he was a Man of moderate Circumstances, or a rich Man, and the Offence appeared to be pretty clear, what could he put against Seven Years Transportation? And I would illustrate that by what has occurred recently in a Misdemeanor. A Magistrate is allowed to take Bail in the Case of Gaming Houses, or in the Charge of Attempts at unnatural Crimes. I should say that Three Times out of Four the Party runs away and the Bail pay the Money. If, on the other hand, you make the Bail high, you then come within the Enactment that you shall not take excessive Bail. Therefore, if you take Bail at all, it is actually Bail to the poor Man only; and if you mean it to a poor Man, what Proportion is it? If a poor Man is brought up for stealing a Hatchet, you say that he shall find Two Bail in 10*l.* each; he cannot find them, he has but 6*s.* a Week, he is to go to Gaol. The other Day there was a Case of Felony of a Parochial Officer, charged with Embezzlement; there was a great Difficulty on the Construction, and the Grand Jury threw out the Bill. Being on a doubtful Construction he was held to bail himself in 200*l.*, and Two Sureties in 100*l.* each, and if the Bill had not been thrown out he did not mean to appear, he would not have subjected himself to Transportation for 200*l.* I defy any Man to find a Rule by which it can be fixed to countervail the Risk of Transportation. Then there is another Way in which I think it may do great Mischief: at present there is great tampering with Witnesses as regards the Grand Jury; there is, as your Lordships all know, no Check upon what Witnesses say before a Grand Jury; and if People swear fully before the Magistrates and in their Deposition, but will not before the Grand Jury tell One Half of that Evidence, the Bill will be thrown out, and if it is made worth their while they will do that. Now, if the Party is admitted to bail, he is permitted to be at liberty to make those Exertions which perhaps no one will make for him.

The Grand Jury cannot procure the Depositions?

No, they never are allowed; and it has occurred to me as a great Singularity with regard to the Qualifications of Grand Jurors, a great Number of them at the Assizes are Magistrates, and sometimes the committing Magistrate is on the Grand Jury. At Sessions the Grand Jury, which try every thing short of Death, are superior Retail Tradesmen, Cheesemongers and Grocers, and so on, who get off the Petit Jury by the Sheriff knowing they are respectable Persons; so that there is every Felony heard by them on which there is not the Punishment of Death. But the Class of Persons to judge of those Bills at Assizes and Sessions are remote Extremes. These Things have occurred at Sessions. If the Bill is thrown out the Sessions have still the Power to award the Expenses to Prosecutors and Witnesses; but it is always a Matter of Consideration, by looking at the Depositions. The Chairman is generally too much engaged to do that, and others have done it. I have found, on Three or Four Occasions, there was the Confession of the Prisoner, and yet the Bill has been thrown out. The Witnesses do not think it of any Consequence what passed before the Magistrates. The Bill has been thrown out because they had not the Depositions.

Do you not think it advisable there should be a Short-hand Writer in the Grand Jury Room, to take down the Evidence for the Use of the Court of Assize and Quarter Sessions?

I have never contemplated that, and do not exactly know, in point of working, how it would operate. I am perhaps the less able to judge of it, because I entertain an Opinion that the Grand Jury is worse than useless, practically speaking. If that comes to be analysed it was an Establishment originating about the Period of Time when the Iter came round; before, Magistrates had the Power of examining upon Oath. We now have the Examination of Witnesses upon Oath before the committing Magistrate, on all the Responsibility which attaches to him; it is in Writing, and it goes to the Judges, and they examine upon it. Whereas if you come to look to what the Grand Jury do, they have nothing to lead them to a single Question, they have nothing to lead to the circumstantial Evidence; and yet, with all this Imperfection in the Inquiry, I think there is something about Ninety Bills out of a Hundred found; so that, in point of fact, it is no Security. There is a remarkable Circumstance I had Occasion to look to, in consequence of a very elaborate Tract of Lord Somers's during the last Sixty Years. I believe

it will be found that at one particular Period, Horne Tooke's Trial and others, they were all acquitted, but all the Bills were found; and I do not believe there has been a Bill for High Treason or Misprision of Treason presented to a Grand Jury for the last Century which has been thrown out. Therefore, as it regards the Protection to the Subject in Times of Excitement, it has been of no consequence; and if it is required that every thing should be done before the Magistrates, and on Oath, that is all the Protection possible; and so it will be found, and it cannot be otherwise. Suppose a long Bill is presented with Ten Counts, with a Parchment Half as long as the Table, is the Grand Jury competent to inquire into all the Circumstances? No. They find the Bill.

Is it not almost always competent for the Person who appears before the Grand Jury to state that the Man has confessed?

Yes; but I do not think they do. A Man comes in, and says, "I found the Things." "Where did you find them?" "On the Prisoner." And the Man then is asked, "Are they your Things? Was the Man seen near the Premises?" "Yes, he was." Then they find the Bill. Then suppose a Man comes in, a Case of Tools, he says, "I have lost a great Number of Tools; a Woman was taken up for receiving them, knowing them to have been stolen; they were seen in the Window." The Case I allude to depended upon this single Question, whether or not the Woman had been told twice that she was to be cautious in taking those Tools, for she bought them in open Market. The Woman was bailed because there was a Doubt of the Evidence, and I said to one of my Colleagues immediately, "This Woman will be acquitted, she is a Woman of good Property; if that Man is not asked before the Grand Jury whether Notice was given, and in what Terms, the Bill will be thrown out;" and so it was.

If it happens that Prisoners are often acquitted, though they have confessed their Guilt, do not you think that implies a Want of Duty in the Grand Jury?

I refer to the Case of a Grand Jury who are Tradesmen, and have never been qualified for such a Duty.

You think the Constitution of the Grand Jury at the Quarter Sessions bad?

Certainly; the Grand Jury is selected by the Sheriff at random, and it depends just upon the Will of the Sheriff. I do not mean to say that they exercise it wrongly, but Inconvenience might arise from the Subject Matter. If Circumstances of great Excitement were to take place it remains in the Hands of the Under Sheriff to select whom he pleases. The Grand Jury at the Assizes are Persons of the greatest Consideration, and is not open to the same Hazard as the other is; indeed, the Chairman frequently says, "Gentlemen, has any one of you ever served upon a Grand Jury before," so that he may have a Foreman who is conversant with it; and it appears that they are often utterly ignorant of the Nature of their Duty. My Opinion is, after deliberating upon it, that Bail would be productive of very little Good as regards the Poor, and of great Danger as respects those in higher Stations.

Do you not think that, as it regards the Poor, Bail might be fixed so as to prevent their running away, and yet to produce great Advantage to them?

I have no Notion how that can be fixed as countervailing Seven Years Transportation. I do not see how a poor Man is to get the Security at all.

Does not it apply to Cases in which Transportation is not likely to be awarded?

Yes; but then it would be a Consideration and a Trial of the whole Case, and then be left to the Feeling of the individual Magistrate.

In proportion to the Smallness of the Offence is it not desirable that Bail shall be taken?

Yes, but I do not know how to graduate that without entering into the whole Case.

Do not you think that the Magistrates on most Cases form a Judgment of the Nature of the Offence?

I should be afraid of that. I saw a Case where Bail was taken in 30*l.* and Two Bail in 15*l.* each — a Man for obtaining Money on false Pretences; I do not think that that Man will ever be tried, I think they will pay the Money.

W. Seymour Esq.

The Object of taking Bail has been, I conceive, from a Desire to avoid the contaminating Effect produced by our Gaols; now, I say, remove the Cause of Contamination, find a speedy Trial, and no Bail are wanted.

Supposing it was felt expedient that there should be a Court established for minor Offences, with whom do you think the Discretion ought to be left as to determining what Cases should be brought before that Court; the committing Magistrate, or the Magistrate in Petty Sessions, or whom?

I apprehend that the only Person who could judge of that would be the Magistrate to whom the Charge was preferred; he hears the Evidence; he says, "This is a Case which may be tried by a summary Tribunal;" having nobody to consult, sitting as a single Magistrate in the Village, he says, "Well, our next Petty Sessions will be next Monday Week, take him back, and let him be tried by that;" that is a Decision, having heard Part of the Case; then that depends upon the Temper and Judgment of the Individual before whom it first comes, and it includes a Difficulty which has occurred in many Cases throughout the Kingdom. It is not an uncommon Thing, under Lord Lansdowne's Act, the 9th of Geo. 4th, that Persons are brought before the Magistrates, and they proceed to adjudicate in a great many Instances, where they give a Maximum of *5l.* I think that shows that they consider it a grave Offence, and they do it with the Impression that the Man cannot pay, and they shall send him to Prison. Then the Question arises, why was not this Man sent to the Sessions, where it would have entitled the Party to be imprisoned Six or Twelve Months, being a gross Case? Because the Magistrates are desirous of contracting the Period of his Imprisonment on account of the Insubordination and Contamination of the Prisons. I think there would be a great Accretion of summary Trials, which ought to be tried in the Face of the County, with the Advantage of a professional Chairman and a large Bench of Magistrates coming from distant Places.

Have you known any Instances in which a Prisoner committed for a very aggravated Offence has required for the Preservation of his Health a larger Portion of Provisions or more nutritious Food than the ordinary Prison Allowance?

I think it has; and whenever that has been required, and a Certificate given to the Surgeon, they have always had it. This has also occurred very lately. We had a Prisoner under Sentence for Twelve or Eighteen Months Imprisonment for an Attempt at Rape, and very shortly after his Confinement he became consumptive; and from that Time he was separated from the rest of the Prisoners, and, by Direction of the Surgeon, allowed such nutritious Food as was adapted to his Complaint.

You are of opinion that the Diet should be in a great Measure under the Direction of the Surgeon?

I think the Rule should be universal à priori, and that the Increase should never be made but by the Report of the Surgeon, approved of by the Visiting Justices beforehand, or at all Events afterwards. In the Lewes House of Correction we appoint Three Days in every Quarter for the Visiting Justices to attend, attending a great many Times in the Interval; but we have these fixed Days, by which a Magistrate says, "Our Days are so and so; I will go over." We have been extremely strict upon the Subject of reviewing the Journals with great Care, and we complain if all the Particulars are not put down as in a Log Book, by the Surgeon, the Gaoler, and the Chaplain; for they are made by the Act to dovetail, but are very seldom put together.

You say you think it important that there should be professional Chairmen appointed to preside at the Quarter Sessions; what Number do you think would be requisite?

There are Fifty-two Counties, including Wales; supposing it was *200l.* a Year for the County, as regards the whole Kingdom that would be a great deal, but as regards the County it is nothing.

Would you consider only One necessary for each County?

Yes; he might travel from one Session to another.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

193

Mr. JOHN MANCE is called in, and examined as follows:

Mr. John Mance.

You are Keeper of the House of Correction at Petworth in the Western Division of the County of Sussex?
I am.

Are you of opinion that the System of enacting Silence in the Prisons is one which is likely to be beneficial?
I am decidedly of that Opinion.

The Petworth House of Correction is now undergoing considerable Enlargement?
It is.

How many Cells will there be when it is finished?
Ninety-seven for Male Prisoners, Nine Cells for Females, and Three Day-rooms for Females who may have Children.

Do you think the present System of Classification in the Prisons is a good one?
Classifying Prisoners according to the present Gaol Act I think very much demoralizes the Character of Prisoners. Classifying Prisoners by Crime engenders Vice and corrupts the Prisoners.

Do you not know many Instances in which Persons have gone out of your Custody worse than when committed?
I should say, generally so.

Do you not think that, wherever practicable, separate Cells for every Prisoner before and after Trial should be provided?
I have no Doubt of it; and if Prisoners were separately employed I think it would be still more beneficial.

Have you Compartments on the Tread-mill at Petworth?
They are now being put on.

Have you Compartments on the Crank-wheel?
We have.

Have you invented a Machine called an Ergometer?
I have.

That enables you to see how much Work each Prisoner performs?
Yes, it does. A Scale of Labour having been adopted, the Ergometer measures and records the same hourly, daily, and for a Quarter of a Year.

It has been carried into execution, and found to answer also in the House of Correction at Lewes?
Yes, and it is also attached to Crank Labour. I have prepared some Observations on the Tread-wheel, with Suggestions for the Equalization of the Tread-wheel and Labour.

Have the goodness to state them?
The Tread-wheel for combined Prison Labour is unquestionably the best Employment, under proper Management, that can be used for imposing the same Quantum of Work upon all Persons employed thereat; but, under the present uniform System of enforcing this Labour, it is one of the most unequal Employments for universal Labour that could be inflicted upon Prisoners, and consequently there is no Equality of Punishment or Uniformity of Discipline; and although, from the different Construction of the Tread-wheels in our several Prisons, it is impossible to make them work out the same Number of Feet in any given Time, it is possible to equalize as near as may be, and thereby make hard Labour uniformly the same throughout the Kingdom, within a very few Feet per Day. In drawing out the Scales of hard Labour, and making the Ergometer to record the same with Accuracy, at the Houses of Correction at Petworth and Lewes, during the varying Seasons of the Year, I had respect to the Opinion of the President and Two Members of the Court of the College of Surgeons, sent by the Home Department to investigate the Eight Cases of Rupture reported to have been occasioned by the Tread-wheel at the Houses of Correction at Shepton Mallett, who are represented to have "unanimously declared that did it not appear to them that a Velocity of Forty-eight Steps of Nine Inches per Minute" (being Thirty-six Feet)

Mr. John Mance.

Feet) "can be prejudicial to the Health of any Person equal to common Labour." Also, I paid due Regard to the enlightened Opinions of the Committee of the Society for the Improvement of Prison Discipline, who, in their valuable Reports, fix the highest Limit of Tread-wheel Labour at 12,000 Feet, and the lowest for Men at 10,000 Feet, per Day; and also my own Experience on the Degree of Exercise, Fatigue, and Exhaustion of the Prisoners under the different Velocities of the Tread-wheel. From these Circumstances, and my Knowledge of Tread-wheel Machinery, I am fully confident that all Tread-wheels in the several Prisons in England and Wales may be made to revolve, during the Winter Hours of Employment, from Thirty-six Feet to Thirty-six Feet Four Inches per Minute, which may be so reduced, as the Days and Heat of the Weather increased, as not to alter materially the individual Labour of the Prisoners throughout the varying Seasons of the Year, being from 11,340 to 11,445 Feet per Day; and if the following Regulation was made a Statute Law, the Hours of Labour would be uniformly the same, and Tread-wheel Labour equalized within 105 Feet per Day throughout the Kingdom; whereas (according to the printed Reports) this Labour varies in our several Prisons from 4,060 Feet in Winter, as performed at Lancaster Gaol to 17,000 Feet in Summer, as performed at the Gaol at Warwick. For the Remedy whereof I most humbly suggest, that all Prisoners labouring at the Tread-wheel shall be employed Seven Hours per Day during the Months of November, December, January, and February, and Eight Hours and Three Quarters during the Months of March and October, and Ten Hours during the Months of April, May, June, July, August, and September; and that during the First Four Months Three Fourths of the Prisoners so employed shall be on the Wheels, and One Fourth off, as Relays, and that during the other Eight Months Three Fifths of the Prisoners shall be on the Wheels, and Two Fifths off, as Relays; and that during the First Four Months no Tread-wheel for the Employment of Male Prisoners shall revolve less than Thirty-six Feet nor more than Thirty-six Feet Four Inches per Minute, and that during the other Eight Months the Revolutions of the Wheels shall be so reduced as to employ the Prisoners during the Hours prescribed, without increasing or diminishing the individual Labour of the Prisoners. By thus simply directing by Law the Hours of Employment, the Velocity of Tread-wheels, and the Sections of Prisoners to be employed at Tread-wheel Labour, this Description of hard Labour would be equalized and universal in every Prison of the Kingdom.

The Scale of Tread-wheel Labour and the Plan of the Ergometer are delivered in and inspected; and are as follow:

A Scale of Tread-wheel Labour enforced at the House of Correction at Petworth; showing the Months and Hours of Employment, the Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at One Time, the Height of each Step, the Velocity of the Wheels and the Number of their Revolutions, with the actual Amount of individual Labour performed by the Prisoners during the varying Seasons of the Year, &c. &c.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at One Time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners on the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	The Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The daily Amount of Labour performed by the Prisoners.	How recorded with Precision.	Application of its Power.
November - December - January - February -	7 Hours	18	9 Inches	48 Steps	$\frac{18}{24}$ = 3-4ths	840	Feet. 11,340	Mance's Ergometer recording the Revolutions of the Wheel hourly, daily, and quarterly.	Turning a Fly Regulator.
March - October -	$8\frac{3}{4}$ Hours	18	9 Inches	48 Steps	$\frac{18}{30}$ = 3-5ths	1,050	11,340		
April - May - June - July - August - September -	10 Hours	18	9 Inches	42 Steps	$\frac{18}{30}$ = 3-5ths	1,050	11,340		

N.B.—If at any Time there should not be a sufficient Number of Prisoners to fill the Wheels as above described, the Sections are reduced, and the Machinery so adjusted as not to alter the individual Labour of the Prisoners.

Note.—A Tread-wheel to perform this Scale of Labour revolves 36 Feet per Minute.

John Mance, Keeper.

A Scale of Tread-wheel Labour at the House of Correction at Lewes; showing the Months and Hours of Employment, the Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at One Time, the Height of each Step, the Velocity of the Wheels and the Number of their Revolutions, with the actual Amount of individual Labour performed by the Prisoners during the varying Seasons of the Year, &c. &c.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at One Time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners on the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with Precision.	Application of its Power.
November, December, January, February	7 Hours	30	7½ Inches	58 Steps	$\frac{30}{40}$ = 3-4ths.	Feet Inches 11,418 9	812	Feet Inches 11,418 9	Mance's Ergometer.	Grinding and dressing Corn, and turning a Fly Regulator
March, October	8¾ Hours	30	7½ Inches	58 Steps	$\frac{30}{50}$ = 3-5ths.	11,418 9	1,015	11,418 9		
April, May, June, July, August, September	10 Hours	30	7½ Inches	51 Steps	$\frac{30}{50}$ = 3-5ths.	11,475 0	1,015	11,418 9		
	Deduct for the Equalization of Labour, as worked out by the Ergometer					56 3				

N.B.—If at any Time there should not be a sufficient Number of Prisoners to fill the Wheels as above described, the Sections are reduced by proportionately adjusting the Fly Regulator so as not to increase or diminish the Velocity of the Wheels, or alter the Amount of individual Labour.

Note.—A Tread-wheel to work out this Scale of Labour revolves 36 Feet 3 Inches per Minute.

John Mance.

[*For the Ergometer, see the annexed Plan.*]

Mr. John Mance.

Can you give the Committee any Information respecting Crank Work for Prison Labour?

Yes. Next to the Tread-wheel Crank Work in separate Compartments (and regulated by non-productive Pumps, as the Tread-wheels are by the Fly,) is to be preferred for combined Prison Labour, and for imposing the same Degree of Labour upon the Prisoners employed thereat. It is only inferior to the Tread-wheel in One Point, namely, the Tread-wheel compels every Prisoner employed thereon to take the same Number of Steps per Day; nevertheless the Tread-wheel is not the same Labour to all; Boys and light Men perform their Work with Ease, whereas it is severe Labour to weak and heavy Men, so much so, that many are necessarily relieved a Part, and some the Whole of this Labour, which renders it necessary that some additional Employment to that of the Tread-wheel should be provided in our Prisons for the Enforcement and Equalization of hard Labour. In this Point Crank Labour is certainly inferior to the Tread-wheel, for although a Prisoner must keep his Body in constant Motion in revolving the Cranks, he may in a Measure ease himself of a Portion of his Labour; and, on the other Hand, his Associates at work, feeling an extra Degree of Labour, they may slacken their Exertions, and thereby fling the Labour back upon the Idler, when he must exert his Strength with the other Prisoners, or the stipulated Work would not be performed in the Hours of Labour, and they would have to remain at work 'till their Day's Labour was completed. But notwithstanding this Inferiority to the Tread-wheel, Crank Labour has some Advantages over Tread-wheel Employment: first, it will employ every Description of Prisoners, both Male and Female, convalescent or in Health, as the Labour, under proper Management, may be apportioned to the Number and Strength of the Prisoners to be employed: secondly, the Prisoners may be employed the Whole of their working Hours, whereas at the Tread-wheel the Prisoners rest from Two Hours Twenty-five Minutes to Four Hours, and in some Prisons Five Hours, whereby they only labour from Three to Five Hours daily: thirdly, it exerts and strengthens the Muscles of the Arms and every Part of the Body, and renders the Prisoners better able to return to Labour on their Discharge from Prison than by working on the Tread-wheel, whereon there is no revolving Hand-rail; and, lastly, Crank Machinery is less expensive than Tread-wheels.

The Scale of Crank Work and the Plan of regulating Work are delivered in and inspected; and are as follow:

SCALE of CRANK LABOUR at the HOUSE of CORRECTION at PETWORTH; showing the Number of Prisoners employed in separate Compartments, the Rate and Duration of the Cranks, how the Labour is apportioned to the Number and Strength of the Prisoners employed, the actual Amount of Labour performed, how recorded with Precision, and the Application of its Power, &c. &c. &c.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Cranks will work at one Time in separate Compartments.	The ordinary Velocity of the Cranks per Minute.	How the Labour is apportioned to the Number and Strength of the Prisoners employed.	The daily Amount of Labour performed by each Prisoner.	How recorded with Precision.	Application of its Power.
November, December, January, February	7 Hours.	30	32 Revolutions.	By a Lever Cock, through which the Water passes from a non-productive Pump with a Double Piston, Three of which are worked by eccentrical Motions, and placed at regular Distances between the Prisoners Compartments.	13,440 Rev.	Mance's Ergometer, for 78 Days.	Supplies the Prison with Water by a Double Engine productive Pump, which raises the Water 150 Feet to the Cistern at the Top of the Prison, and also works Three non-productive Water Regulators.
March, October	8¾ Hours.	30	24 Revolutions, and 840 over in the course of the Day.		13,440 Rev.		
April, May, June, July, August, September	10 Hours.	30	22 Revolutions, and 240 over in the course of the Day.		13,440 Rev.		

N.B.—The Power of Crank Labour in separate Compartments, like that of the Tread-wheel, may be advantageously applied to working Power-looms, Saw-mills, grinding and dressing Corn, Bark, Bones, &c. &c. &c.

Mr. John Mance.

[*For Plan of regulating the Work, see annexed Plan.*]

Have you ever found that the Health of the Prisoners failed under the Tread-mill Labour?

Weak Men do, and then they are relieved by the Surgeon and put to Crank Labour.

Have you ever had a Woman on the Tread-wheel?

Never.

It is not the Practice in the House of Correction at Petworth to place Women on the Tread-wheel?

No; we have very few Women.

Is the Work always equally easy or difficult?

No, it is not; when a Prisoner first comes into the Prison and is placed on the Tread-wheel, before he is used to the Step it is extremely difficult; but after he has been in Prison for a Fortnight or Three Weeks he becomes accustomed to the Step, and if he should be in Three or Four Months it appears very little Punishment to a Man: at first it is extremely severe Labour; afterwards he does it with the greatest Ease.

Can you put him on the Crank Machine if you think fit?

Yes; and impose any Degree of Labour we please by the Water Regulator.

The Crank Machine forces Water to the Top of the Prison?

Yes; and it works Three non-productive Barrels, a Copy of which I produce; that is for the Purpose of regulating the Crank Labour; there is a Lever with a Regulator attached to it, showing how it is done.

Supposing the Tread-wheel makes a certain Number of Revolutions in a certain Time, is the Labour always the same to each Prisoner?

No, it is not; Boys and light Men work the Wheel with perfect Ease, whereas it is extreme Labour to weak and heavy Men. I have seen Boys not affected, while on other Men the Perspiration ran off into their Shoes.

Supposing you had a certain Number of Persons employed on the Tread-wheel, of a certain Weight, would their Work be easier or not than that of the same Number of Prisoners of less Weight?

It would depend upon whether they are employed by Time or by Revolutions of the Wheel; if they were employed by Time, the same Number of light Men would not perform the same Work as so many heavier; it is by Weight the Wheel revolves. If the Prisoners were relieved by Revolutions they would perform the same Quantum of Work; but if it is by Time, then the light Men perform less Work than the heavy.

How

How many Prisoners have you now in the Petworth House of Correction?
Sixty-three.

How many of those for Trial?
Three Felons and One Misdemeanant; the others are all under Sentence.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence in the Petworth House of Correction permitted to receive other Food than the Gaol Allowance?
Prisoners under Sentence, who are employed for the County, are allowed for their extra Exertions a small Quantity of Food extra; but no convicted Prisoner is allowed to receive from his Friends or Relatives any Portion of Food.

You do not permit any smoking in the Prison?
No. There is one of the Turnkeys who occasionally smokes. The Prisoners never smoke.

Are they allowed to chew Tobacco?
They are not.

Do you believe that it would be desirable to prevent all Prisoners sentenced to any Term of Imprisonment under Six Calendar Months from receiving Letters or Visits from their Friends, unless under very peculiar Circumstances?
I am decidedly of opinion that they ought not; such Intercourse destroys the Seclusion of the Prison.

Is there any other Suggestion you would wish to offer to the Committee?
I am fully persuaded that no Discipline short of universal Silence (including a Prevention of Intercourse with Friends from without the Prison) and separate Confinement will check Crime or reform the Criminal; and if the Benefit anticipated from this desirable Discipline is to be realized, the Prevention of Intercourse, and Seclusion, must not be confined to the Cells, but extended to Employment and other Branches of Instruction and Discipline, especially to the Employment of Prisoners in separate Compartments at combined Labour. With respect to Classification, I would beg to say that the Classification of Prisoners, conformably to the Gaol Act, destroys the otherwise salutary Discipline of our Prisons; classifying Prisoners by Crime engenders Vice and corrupts the Prisoner; instance the Vagrant Class. This Law includes almost every Character; the Housebreaker, Pickpocket, common Thief, the poor Man sleeping in a Hovel, or leaving or threatening to leave his Family chargeable to the Parish, &c., all congregated together in One Room, whereby, with very few Exceptions, Prisoners leave Prison greater Delinquents than when they entered it. With regard to productive Employment, I would beg to say the next important Consideration to the Reformation of Criminals and a Diminution of Crime is a Reduction in the Expenses of Prison Establishments. What can be more inconsistent in a Country pressed with Taxation than flinging away Prison Labour into Air. I presume no Person, however much opposed to productive Prison Labour, can for a Moment object to returning to the manual Labour of Prisoners those Productions now performed by Steam and other Power, such as working Saw-mills, Power-looms, &c. &c., which, if generally adopted in our Prisons, would in part, if not wholly, defray the Expense of these Establishments. With respect to Prison Returns, I would beg to say that the Prison Return annexed to the Gaol Act gives a very incorrect Account of the Number of Criminals committed to our Prisons in the course of a Year; for instance, if a Prisoner be committed to One Prison for Re-examination, to a Second for Trial, and a Third for Punishment, he appears in the Number of the several Returns as Three Offenders; and in other respects these Returns are unsatisfactory and defective, inasmuch as they give no Account of the Officers Salaries, the Expenses of the Prison, nor of the Monies received by the Keepers for the Subsistence of military Prisoners, Smugglers, or Prisoners under Contract, nor of Fines and Penalties paid into their Hands by Prisoners pursuant to their Warrants of Commitment, and applicable to the County Rates; for the Remedy whereof I most humbly suggest that a more satisfactory and comprehensive Return, similar to the one proposed and annexed to my Annual Return, and printed with the Gaol Reports on the 18th February 1833, be substituted for the present Schedule B. annexed to the Gaol Acts. This is a Return of the Expenses of the Prison, and the Number of Prisoners, for the last Year.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

HOUSE OF CORRECTION, PETWORTH - - - - -

A RETURN of the Number of PRISONERS, and the different Periods of their Confinement, in the House
the Offences for which they were

Number of Prisoners - - -	8	12	11	4	3	1	10	3	9	15	3	3	8	21
Number of Days in Confinement	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	2	6	1	2	–	2	11	2	1	1	1	1	2
Number of Days in Confinement	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Number of Prisoners - - -	2	1	2	2	–	3	1	–	–	1	1	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Number of Days in Confinement	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320
Number of Prisoners - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Number of Days in Confinement	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354

	Males.	Females.	Children with their Mothers.	Total.
Number in Custody at the Commencement of the Year - - -	49	4	1	490
Number received in the course of the Year	389	38	9	
Average Number in the Prison daily -	$63\frac{381}{365}$	$5\frac{71}{365}$	$1\frac{83}{365}$	$70\frac{249}{365}$

- - - - HOUSE OF CORRECTION, PETWORTH.

during the Year; showing the average Number in the House daily, distinguishing Males from Females, and charged; from Michaelmas 1833 to Michaelmas 1834.

2	1	3	1	4	8	22	1	–	1	2	3	3	8	7	17	28	1	4	4
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
2	1	7	–	3	2	1	3	2	4	5	8	31	7	–	–	6	–	4	–
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68
7	11	2	–	1	–	8	6	5	12	1	4	1	3	3	3	–	–	–	–
83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102
1	1	–	2	1	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136
1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204
–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	1
253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272
–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

——	Capital Felonies.	Other Felonies not Capital.	Stealing Fruit and Vegetables.	Under the Game Laws.	Under the Bastardy Laws.	Assaults and Breaches of the Peace.	Vagrants.	Under the Excise, Customs, or Revenue Laws.	Other Misdemeanors.	Total.
Description of Offences received under Commitments in the course of the Year -	1	88	16	115	33	62	57	- -	55	427

Out of the 427 committed in the course of the Year 97 could read, 151 could read and write, and 179 could neither read or write.

Mr. John Mance.

ABSTRACT of the ACCOUNTS of the EXPENSES of the PRISON for the Year ending Michaelmas 18 , and the Costs per Head per Day to the County, including Officers Salaries, Food, Repairs, &c.

	£	s.	d.
To Amount of Salaries and Wages	502	18	0
Victuals, Bedding, Clothing, Washing, Coals, Candles, Furniture, Utensils, Printing, Stationery, &c.	624	18	0
Tradesmen's Bills for Repairs on the Buildings, &c.	100	4	0
Conveyance of Prisoners to and from the Assizes and Sessions, &c.	30	14	7
Ditto Ditto to the Hulks for Transportation, &c.	—		
	1,258	14	7
By Amount of Prisoners Earnings, Profits of the Manufactures, &c.	141	17	0
Amount of ordinary Expenses	1,116	17	7
To Amount of new Works, Alterations, &c. 1,400 3 3			
Ditto for new Plans, and Estimates or Returns to the Houses of Parliament, &c. 25 5 0			
	1,425	8	3
Total Cost to the County	£ 2,542	5	10

Cost per Head per Day, as per ordinary Expenses, $10\frac{1}{4}\ \frac{140350}{253809}d.$

N.B.—In addition to the Prisoners Earnings, deducted from the yearly Expenses, the Prisoners have saved the County the Sum of 289*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* in the new Works; which Sum is not, but should be fairly deducted from the ordinary Expenses of the Prison, which would reduce that Sum to only 827*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed) JOHN MANCE, Keeper.

In Petworth House of Correction you do not appoint any Wardsmen, Yardsmen, or Monitors from among the Prisoners to watch their Fellow Prisoners?
We do not.

You do not think it a good System to appoint a convicted Prisoner to an Office which places him in a better Situation than the other Prisoners?
There are several Things worthy of Consideration in that respect, perhaps the County Rates; but I should say decidedly it is better to have paid Officers than Prisoners.

Do the Turnkeys of Petworth House of Correction reside in the Prison?
One resides within, and Two reside out, but Two sleep in the Prison; Two of them live as it were in the Prison; the other Two are married Men, and go out for their Meals. That is certainly a bad System, and under a new Regulation I should advise that that should be amended.

You think that the Officers should board and reside within the Prison?
Certainly; I have always found that the more the Prisoners are under Inspection the greater Subjection there is with respect to themselves, and the more they dislike it.

When the Petworth House of Correction is finished, which will be in about Two Months, do you not think you will be able to carry into execution a very efficient System of Discipline?
I have no Doubt of it; we shall not only keep them separate during their Meal-hours and at Night, but we shall employ them separately, so that they will never be together; and in passing to and from the Cells they will be at that Distance no Communication can pass between them; and also when in the Airing-yards it is proposed they shall be at the Distance of Four Feet, marching in Rank and File, so that no Communication can pass between them.

The

The Cells are warmed by hot Water?

Our Wards are furnished with a Water-closet, a cast-iron Washing Bason, and a Tap-cock, so that each Prisoner can supply himself with Water to wash himself; and it is heated also with hot Water. There are also Inspection Holes which come from the Prisoners Cells in the Passage, whereby the perambulating Officer may see the Prisoners as he passes along, without the Knowledge of the Prisoners.

When was the System of Silence first adopted in your House of Correction?

It is not yet adopted, the Rule is not yet enforced; the Magistrates have come to a Determination not to adopt the Rule 'till there is Means within the Prison of carrying it into effect.

When did the Magistrates come to the Determination of adopting the System of Silence as soon as the Enlargement of the Prison admitted its being carried into execution?

It has been under Consideration Two Sessions; and I believe it was their original Intention. It was taken into consideration at the County Quarter Sessions held at Chichester in 1833.

What is the average Number of Prisoners at Petworth?

Our average Number for the last Year was Seventy. I think we shall have sufficient Cells for the greatest Number. The greatest Number we ever had was 107, including Males and Females.

Previous to the Change there were but Thirty Cells?

Yes; and Two dark Cells.

The Magistrates thought it right, in order to carry into execution the Plan of Silence, to increase the Prison to the present Number of Cells?

Yes. The Object was not so much the increased Number of Prisoners as the new System.

State the Alteration which has taken place?

There are Sixty-seven new Cells, and a separate Female Building, with Nine Cells and Three Day-rooms, a Wash-house, a Laundry, and hot Closet. The whole Expense is supposed to be about 7,000*l.*; the Estimate was 9,000*l.*

The Employment of the Prisoners in the Alteration has been One of the Causes which has enabled the County to carry into execution their Plan at a considerable less Sum than was estimated for?

Yes.

What is the Thickness of the Walls between each Cell?

In the old Prison Eighteen Inches; and in the new Prison Fourteen Inches.

Do you think that will be sufficient to prevent their hearing each other in the adjoining Cells?

Yes, with the superintending Officer who perambulates the Passages.

The Officer perambulating the Passage would hear any Prisoner who might be speaking?

There are Three Ranges; the perambulating Officer being in the Range, no Communication could be carried on from one Cell to another without his hearing it; he has a View from End to End; and our Prison is built on a Rock, and there are great Cavities in it; it sounds like a Bell. I can hear the Prisoners at a great Distance talking in their Cells; and I am confident the Officer perambulating the Passages can hear the Prisoners talking one to another.

Might not some Saving to the County of Sussex take place by a Change in the Law respecting Persons sentenced to Transportation at the Quarter Sessions?

A great Saving might be effected in the Conveyance of Prisoners transported by the Court of Quarter Sessions held in the Western Division of the County of Sussex, by allowing such Prisoners to remain in the Custody of the Keeper of the House of Correction at Petworth, in whose Custody they are detained before Trial from one Sessions to another; but, in consequence of the present Law requiring that such Prisoners should be in the Custody of the

Mr. John Mance.

Sheriff, the Prisoners so transported are taken out of the Custody of the Keeper of the House of Correction, and conveyed a Distance of Seventeen Miles to the County Gaol at Horsham, where they remain until the Keeper of that Gaol receives an Order from the Home Office to remove them to Portsmouth, when they have to return the Distance before travelled, at a useless Expense to the County of about Thirty-four Shillings each.

Have you any other Suggestion to offer to the Committee?
Yes. In substituting separate Confinement for the Classification of the Gaol Act, I should humbly suggest, that, for the Information of the Prisoners, the Prison Rules should be read to the Prisoners, after Morning Prayers, at least once a Week, by the Keeper.

Is there a Schoolmaster in the Petworth House of Correction?
Yes.

Is he a Prisoner?
No.

By whom is he appointed?
By the Visiting Justices.

Does the Chaplain read Prayers every Morning?
Yes, or some other Clergyman for him, when the Prison is not under Repair, which it is at present, and the full Service on Sunday, with One Sermon.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Rev. J. Mayo.

The Reverend JOSEPH MAYO is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Chaplain of the Devizes House of Correction?
I am.

Is the House of Correction in the Town of Devizes?
Not in the Town; about Half a Mile out of the Town.

Is Silence enacted in the Devizes House of Correction?
That is the Object; it is not obtained yet.

What is the average Number of Prisoners in the Devizes House of Correction?
I think nearly 150; I cannot speak positively to that.

Are there Day-rooms in that House of Correction?
No, all the Day-rooms have been converted into Cells.

The Means of Contamination do not exist as much as formerly?
No.

Are you of opinion that it is very desirable that Prisoners should be separated?
I think it is of the utmost Importance.

Are you in the habit of visiting the Prisoners, and seeing them in their Cells separately?
I am.

Do you examine them also by Classes?
I do.

Do you find that it is of advantage to examine them separately, so as to enable them to attend the Classes with more Benefit to themselves?
Time would not allow of it among so many (we frequently have Two hundred at a Time); if I visited each Prisoner as I would wish to do, that would occupy so much Time that many must go unattended to; therefore I prefer the Mode of assembling them in Classes merely on that Account.

Do you think that the Prisoners derive Benefit from the Labour which you are enabled to bestow upon them?
I believe, considering many Circumstances, that Good is derived from the Labour I bestow; but there are many Things which counteract my Labour

very much indeed. I have likewise the Care of the Prisoners previous to Trial, in what is called the Old Bridewell, and the Discipline of that Prison is extremely bad; the Contamination that Men receive there is not lost during a long Term of Imprisonment in the House of Correction; therefore there is a counteracting Evil to any Good that might be derived from my Instructions at the House of Correction.

Have those Two Prisons any Connexion with each other?
They are under the same Magistrates.

You think that the Prisoners learn so much Evil in the Prison before Trial, that your Labour is much increased with them after Conviction?
It makes it much less effective; very much so. I would say one thing, too, with respect to my Instruction, particularly Religious Instruction: it is made a Mockery of previous to Trial by many abandoned Persons there, and, in consequence of that, after Trial Religious Instruction ceases to have that Effect which it otherwise would produce upon their Minds in the new Prison. I have been led to the Belief that Religious Instruction, where there is not Attention paid to the Conduct of the Men, and proper Separation, does more Harm than Good, inasmuch as it induces Irreligion and Infidelity. It is astonishing the Number of Men I have found quite callous and hardened, which I trace to that Circumstance, of their being in the habit of hearing the Prayers of the Church and the Instructions there given ridiculed and made a Mockery.

You think a very great Change should take place in the Discipline of the Prisons before Trial?
I am inclined to think we shall never arrive at any real Good in reforming Prisoners until we have some Mode of preventing their communicating with each other before Trial.

You think that Prison Discipline, so far as relates to Silence, should commence from the Moment they are committed?
I am convinced of that by my Experience.

Does not the present System of placing comparatively innocent Persons with the more depraved Prisoners have the Effect of injuring the Morals of the former; the Consequence therefore being, that many quit the Prison worse than when committed?
Yes. Prison Discipline appears to furnish Three Subjects of Inquiry. First, the Causes of Crime. The following appear to be some of them: Imprisonment for small Offences, where some other Mode of Punishment might be substituted; Expenses attending Conviction; a Want of sufficient Discretion, I mean Knowledge of the Ability of the Offender to pay, on the Part of Magistrates, in apportioning Fines; Ignorance; Want of Employment; Loss of Parents; and defective Education.—Second, the Prevention of Ill, either moral or physical, to the Person suspected. This Branch of the Subject calls for Reform in all Prisons previous to Trial. Prisoners for Trial are congregated together in dense Masses for Weeks, and even Months; what Wickedness one does not know another teaches him, and all (the young especially) are exposed to Examples more corrupt and demoralizing than ever fall to the Lot of any Individual, however untoward his Circumstances in Life may have been. Thus every Man, if acquitted, becomes the Nucleus of a Gang in his own Neighbourhood, spreading the Mischief far and wide. There is also a great Want of proper Accommodation both for Sleep and Exercise, and no Infirmary, thereby endangering the Health of Men who may be innocent.—Third, the Moral Improvement of the Offender when found guilty, and, if possible, the Prevention of his Return to Crime. Religious Instruction administered in such a Way as that the Impression should not be obliterated (in Prison at least) by the Scoffs of the more hardened; Employment conducted upon the silent System; Solitude Day and Night, not to exceed Ten Days; sleeping alone; the Tread-mill, as tending to Health, where other Employment is wanting.

What is your Opinion of the System of Silence?
I give the Preference to the silent System over the solitary, first, because it leaves the Gaoler an unobjectionable Mode of Punishment; where the Prisoners

Rev. J. Mayo.

are all kept in Solitude there is no Mode but that of Torture to punish them if they break any Rule of the Prison. The Plan in the House of Correction is to deprive them of their Bed in the Night; this is objectionable, because it is a Species of Torture, and they do not correct the Prisoner, but make him angry and indignant against the Prison, and perhaps make him sick. In Health, the Severity of solitary Confinement depends upon the Disposition and former Habits of Life of the Prisoner, and therefore can rarely, if ever, be applied with Success, and very sad Consequences have in some Instances arisen out of long Solitude. These are some of the Objections to which it is subject, and why I should give a Preference to the silent System over the solitary; and, lastly, because the silent System induces a Habit of Self-command, and can be extended to a much greater Length of Time without Injury to the Person on whom the Punishment is inflicted. I have known several Cases where Men's Minds have become wandering and imbecile from long solitary Confinement.

For what Period have you known a Person to be kept in solitary Confinement?

Two Years solitary Confinement in the Devizes House of Correction.

How complete has it been rendered?

Having only Half an Hour's Walk in a solitary Yard every Day, no other allowed Communication, and no Conversation with any Person but myself.

Was the Prisoner in a dark Cell?

No.

Was he permitted to have Books?

Yes, but no Companions.

In how many Instances have you known this Punishment resorted to?

It happens in every Case where there is physical Inability to work. It often happens that a Man is sent for a common Assault; and, as the Discipline of our Prison is solitary, that Man, though guilty of a very trifling Offence, is exposed to the same Severity of Punishment as a Man who has been guilty of Housebreaking.

You mean for the Period of his Term of Imprisonment?

Yes; but the Term is very frequently pretty much the same; if a Person is committed for Three Months for poaching he is confined solitarily under the Circumstances of physical Inability.

Under what Act and by what Authority has solitary Confinement been inflicted on a Poacher or Person for an Assault?

I believe merely because it is the Rule of the Prison.

Is that Rule of the Prison sanctioned by the Judges, and hung up in the Prison?

That I do not know; I never saw any Rules hung up.

Is solitary Confinement ever awarded to a Prisoner by the Quarter Sessions?

Yes, in some Cases Men are sentenced regularly to solitary Confinement from the Sessions, and the Time is specified; but our Prison being conducted on our own Principle, all come under the same Rule.

You have no Arrangement but for solitary Confinement?

No, we have no common Yard; there is great Order and Attention on the Part of the Prisoners, both in the House of God and in their general Conduct, but it does not affect them equally.

Does it not affect the Minds of the Prisoners in some Cases?

Yes. In the Case I allude to it did not affect the Man at all, because he was a Man of weak Intellect, and the Conversation I had with him did not much relieve him. He had been a Shepherd, and had been used to a solitary Life on Salisbury Plain.

Have there not been Cases where the Mind of the Individual has been affected by solitary Confinement?

Yes, there have been Instances.

In

Rev. J. Mayo.

In what State have those Prisoners been when they have been dismissed from the Prison?

There is One who has been Twelve Months with us, a Man of the Name of ———; he has now gone on board the Hulks; he was sentenced to Twelve Months Imprisonment previous to Transportation for Life. This has hung upon his Mind extremely, and the Man went out quite a different Person to what he came in; his Mind was wandering, and there were very sad Effects produced.

Was he almost in a State of Derangement?

Yes; in a most melancholy State.

What was his Offence?

Horse-stealing.

He was sentenced to One Year's Imprisonment, and then to be transported?

Yes.

Has the Surgeon made any Report upon this Man's Case?

Yes, with regard to this Man particularly. Our Surgeon wrote to the Surgeon at Fisherton, where the Man was passed to at the Termination of his Time, stating the Fact.

Have you any other Suggestions to offer to the Committee?

We have usually not less than 600 Cases of summary Conviction for small Offences within the Twelvemonth. There is One Thing has often struck me in visiting these Men; they have said, "If the Fine imposed upon us was smaller, and no Expenses to be paid by us, we should suffer greater Punishment ourselves from having to find the Money to pay." These Men come into Prison for a Month or Two Months. They might be saved coming to Prison at all, and their Parishes be saved the Expense of keeping their Families, and the County the Expense of keeping them there, if the Fine was less, and the Expenses paid out of some other Fund. I take the Liberty of touching upon this Subject, because some of our Magistrates, especially Mr. ———, have wished I should say that if the 7 & 8 G. 4., the Act which imposes the Expenses upon the Prisoner convicted, was repealed, or the Magistrates had the Power to pay it out of some other Fund, that it would tend to save a great Number of Persons going to Prison at all, both with reference to the Interests of Prosecutors and the Counties. If the Prisoner is convicted of robbing a Garden, for instance, the Costs of Conviction amount to 12*s*., the Fine is generally from 10*s*. to 20*s*., and the Damage is estimated according to the Loss, say 5*s*.; so that the Man, if convicted, had to pay 27*s*. or 37*s*., which he scarcely ever can do, and therefore is sent to Prison for a Period not exceeding Six Months. If he is a married Man with a Family, the Family fall immediately upon the Parish. The Prosecutor being a poor Man, depending upon his Garden for his Support, is obliged to pay the Costs, and the Man sent to Prison is put out of the Way of supporting himself. The Prisoner, too, is often able to pay the Fine and the Damage, but he cannot do more, and therefore goes to Prison, where the County support him Four or Five or Six Months, while the Parish is supporting his Family at an Expense of 5*s*. or 6*s*. a Week. I have considered that, taking into consideration all the Causes which lead Men to Prison, this Cause is very important.

Are there any Means of enabling these Prisoners to work out their Debts during the Time they are kept in Confinement?

No, none whatever. There is a Corn-mill attached to the Tread-mill, but it does not pay the Expenses of the Machine.

Would it be possible to employ them at any Work sufficiently lucrative to enable them to pay these Expenses out of their Prison Earnings?

We have so many Labourers and so many little Tradesmen out of Employ, it would be only increasing the Evil if the Prisoners under-worked them.

What Course would you pursue with regard to Persons convicted of an Offence, for which they are fined, and, in consequence of the Nonpayment of the Fine, are imprisoned, to deter others from committing similar Offences?

They must come to Prison if they cannot pay the Fine, but I have always

Rev. J. Mayo.

understood it to be a greater Punishment to a Man to pay a Fine, even if he borrowed the Money and had to work it out, than to come to Prison; if the Man comes to Prison for a small Offence the Probability is he will soon come there for a greater.

Then you think it would be preferable that a Man should be permitted to remain out on Bail, and work out the Fine imposed?

That would be a very beneficial Thing if it could be adopted; it would prevent many a Man entering on a Career of Crime. Imprisonment has no Terror, however severe the Discipline, I am sorry to say it has no Terror to some Men. At this Time Work is becoming more plentiful, and therefore our weekly Average is less; we have not so many fresh Faces now, but we continue to have Men who have been before committed to Prison. They come because they have been there before.

Does the System of solitary Confinement in the Devizes House of Correction deter Persons from violating the Laws?

No; I do not think Imprisonment, however terrible, would prevent Crime. I think that unless the Moral Tone of a Man's Feelings be raised, and unless he is taught to act from Principle, nothing short of Torture, and not even that itself, would prevent his coming in. We find Men, when before under the most severe Discipline, and when flogged Two or Three Times, come again.

How many Years have you been Chaplain to the Prison?

I have been nearly Thirteen Years Chaplain, but I was Assistant to the late Chaplain Two or Three Years before that; I have had Fifteen Years Experience.

Is the Prison Discipline of Devizes more strict than it was?

Very much; it has increased gradually.

Has this Circumstance produced the Effect of preventing the Prisoners returning so often?

It has not. I am sorry to say that the Proportion of Re-commitments is at least One Third.

You account for this in a great Degree by there being so much Contamination in the Prisons before Trial?

Yes, in the Case of Felonies; in the other Case their having come to Prison at all. I consider that a Man's Mind is injured by coming to Prison.

You consider that the Injury done to a Man's Character affects him so much that he becomes more indifferent to being committed to Prison?

Yes, I do.

Do you devote the whole of your Time to the Two Prisons you have referred to?

Yes.

You have no other Preferment?

I have not.

Do you think you have quite enough to do in attending to the Prisoners in those Two Prisons?

I do; my Time is fully occupied.

Is there a Schoolmaster in either of the Prisons?

No. When I was first appointed Chaplain there was a Schoolmaster at the House of Correction, but I found him a Man wholly careless as to the most needful Part of Instruction, and my Mind was not satisfied with their being taught to read and write; I thought that their Time would be thrown away if Education stopped there, and I therefore became the Schoolmaster, and teach them to read myself: the Writing we do not teach.

Do you not think it important that every Chaplain should devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prisons?

If he will condescend to be the Schoolmaster. I find the Prisoners always ready and rejoicing to have my Instructions. With regard to our Discipline I found that as the Discipline of the Prison increased the Men took every possible Opportunity of communicating with each other, and that their Desire to commu-

Rev. J. Mayo.

nicate increased with our Desire to separate them. We had been in the habit of assembling them for Prayer, and I suggested to the Magistrates that it would be advisable to have Prayer in their Wards instead of bringing Two hundred at a Time to the Chapel; they said it would increase my Duty; I said I did not care for that if it would be beneficial to them; and we adopted that.

How many can you assemble at One Time in One Ward?
They remain in their Cells for the most Part during the Prayers. I have Five Times to read Prayers.

Do you think Three Hours a Day is too much for a Chaplain to devote to the Duties of a Prison?
I cannot think he could do much if he did not attend that Time.

You think that Three Hours a Day is not sufficient to enable the Chaplain to perform the Duty attached to his Office?
There is a great deal to do at Home to prepare for his Sunday Duty. The Man who is occupied for Three Hours a Day I think would be a very effective Person.

The proper Period of personal Attendance would depend upon the Number of Prisoners?
Of course.

Three Hours Attendance per Day might be sufficient for the Chaplain of a Prison which contained Fifty Prisoners, whereas it would be much too short a Time for a Prison containing 200?
Just so.

Do you think Three Hours a Day is sufficient for the Performance of your Duty?
Yes. I often wish I could give more; I always find there is something to be done. I can scarcely say that I have done my Duty when I leave the Prison, but it is a very painful Duty; the Coldness of the Cells powerfully affects the Person; I have suffered in my Health by going through them, and it depends upon the State of the Weather how long I can remain.

Do you never assemble the whole of the Prisoners together for Divine Service?
We do on the Sunday. I could not preach to them and perform the whole Service in their Wards; it would occupy the whole Day.

Have you Service once or twice on the Sunday?
Twice.

What is your Attendance and Duty on the Week Day?
Three Days of the Week I devote to the School, taking a Ward at a Time, which consists generally of Eighteen Prisoners. On the Two alternate Days I visit the Cells.

Each Cell separately?
Yes; not the whole Prison; if there are a good many on the Tread-mill my Services are not wanted.

How often in any given Time, on an Average, do you communicate with each individual Prisoner?
A Week might elapse without my conversing with all, but I see them every Morning; I pass their Cells, and see them and notice them. I converse with them when assembled together for Instruction.

Then taking Eighteen together you probably see every Man in the course of the Week?
Generally I should think I do. Those Visits are principally to the new Comers; we have so many committed every Week. I do not teach them at all at the Old Bridewell previous to Trial. I applied to the Magistrates to give me Facilities for instructing them, but they say they cannot afford it, that they cannot put the County to the Expense; but I am confident the greatest Benefit would take place from the Instruction of them previous to Trial.

Rev. J. Mayo.

You say that has been objected to on the score of Expense?
Yes, the making Arrangements for the teaching them before Trial; we have a very insufficient Place for the Purpose.

You think you could have more Influence on Prisoners newly committed than on those who have been for a longer Period in Prison?
Yes.

Your Opinion is quite decided that more Care ought to be taken of the Prisoners before Trial than there is now in the Prisons to which you have had access?
Yes, entirely so.

What is your Salary for the Two Prisons?
I have 200*l.* a Year.

Who appoints the Chaplain?
The Magistrates.

What Duty do you perform at the Bridewell?
I read Prayers there every Morning, and I have Two Services on the Sunday, so that every Day I attend at both Prisons, and on every Sunday I have Four Services.

Are your Sunday Services full Services?
They are.

Have you any other Observation to make?
I find the Prisoners very ignorant. I find among the Felons only One Third read tolerably; among the Misdemeanants, who are the most numerous, about Half read; but I find from Conversation that where they have been taught to read they have been taught nothing more. I have frequently Lads from distant Counties, who have been taught at the National Schools in London, and at some of the very best Establishments, but I have always found a Want of what may be considered the proper Basis of Education; they have been taught to read, but never learnt any thing beyond the technical Part of reading, they have never been taught any good Principle. I have known Boys who could read as well as I could myself, and they have been unable to tell me the commonest Principle on which our Religion is founded.

You cannot specify at what National Schools in London they have been taught?
I have the Particulars at Home.

Are you not aware that at the National Schools in London it is the invariable Practice to question them with respect to their Religious Instruction and their Religious Principles?
Yes, they ask them a String of Questions which never vitally affect the Individuals; the Questions asked are on Paper. I have taken a great deal of Interest respecting Education. We have a British and a National School at Devizes. I have watched over the Way in which the Boys imbibe Instruction; they are taught by a Monitor, and on One Occasion the Question the Monitor asked his Class from the Book was, "Who is the *internal* Son of God." I asked the Boy what he meant; he could not tell me; he had not the slightest Idea; he looked to his Book and read the Word correct, it was "eternal;" and even that Word he was not acquainted with. I argue from this, that if this is Education, there is no Foundation laid for any Religious Principle; nothing which will guard them against the Temptations to which they will be exposed; such a Boy so educated I conceive will be the Tool of any Knave who may take him up, and be likely to become the worse for his Instruction; such Instruction I conceive will tend to Infidelity. I see Boys who have been thus instructed more inclined to Atheism and Infidelity than those who have not been instructed at all. I have found great Attention on the Part of those who have never been instructed at all; but many of those Boys have learned to treat these Subjects with a Degree of Contempt; there is never any real Religious Impression made upon their Minds, and to that I trace a great deal of the juvenile Delinquency which is found.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr.

209

Mr. THOMAS HAYWOOD is called in, and examined as follows: *Mr. T. Haywood.*

You are the Governor of the Devizes House of Correction?
I am.

Is it a Common Gaol, or a House of Correction?
A House of Correction.

You have for some Time practised there the System of solitary Confinement?
We have for a considerable Time.

How long?
Total Solitude for a Year and a Half or Two Years; partially for many Years.

Have you any Prisoners in your Custody but those under Sentence?
None.

If a Man be committed for Six Months hard Labour, do you put him into solitary Confinement?
Yes, certainly.

Is it solitary or separate Confinement?
It must be solitary Confinement; where separate Cells are provided for every Person in the Prison, we consider that solitary Confinement.

Do they not work together on the Tread-wheel?
Yes, but with Partitions between them, so that they cannot see each other.

Do they take their Meals in separate Cells?
They do.

They are permitted to have Books in their Cells?
They are.

They are visited by the Chaplain, Governor, and Officers?
Yes.

Do you think that long solitary Confinement is prejudicial to the Healths of the Prisoners?
I certainly have not witnessed any physical Injury to any of the Prisoners who have been in Prison. The strict Solitude is done away, in a great Measure, by the frequent Visits of the Officers of the Prison, myself, and the Turnkeys; they see various Officers many Times a Day, which does away with that strict Solitude that would otherwise be the Case.

Have you ever seen their mental Faculties sink under it?
No, decidedly not.

Had you a Man of the Name of ——— committed to your Custody for a Twelvemonth previous to Transportation by Sentence of a Court of Justice?
Yes, he was recently removed.

Were that Man's mental Faculties affected by his long Imprisonment?
That is a very difficult Question to answer; towards the Close of his Sentence he was attacked with Disease, which weakened his Intellects, but I cannot say whether either was brought on by the System adopted in the Gaol; he certainly appeared to suffer mentally from the Idea of being separated from his Friends for the whole of his Life, which, I think, would not have been the Case had his Sentence terminated at the End of Twelve Months.

What Punishments have you in your Prison for refractory Prisoners?
We have what we call Dark Cells; when they are placed in those Cells for any Misbehaviour they are deprived of a Portion of their Food. They are placed there for One, Two, or Three Days, as the Circumstances may require.

Do you ever take away their Beds from them as a Punishment?
Always.

Mr. T. Haywood.

On what do they sleep?
On a boarded Floor, or a Platform of Timber.

Under what Regulation and by what Authority is that Punishment inflicted?
It is by a general Rule which has grown up with the various Improvements which have taken place. I think it is not provided for in our Rules; it is the Custom of the Magistrates who visit the Prison to inflict this Kind of Punishment; it is merely the Custom of the Prison.

What is the average Number of Prisoners in your Custody?
In the Summer Season about 140, and in the Winter perhaps 240.

It appears by the Returns sent by the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, under the Direction of the Gaol Act, to the Secretary of State at Michaelmas 1834, that, in the Year ending at that Period, 245 Punishments had taken place for Offences committed within the Prison, by solitary Confinement; and that the whole Number of Prisoners committed in the course of the Year was 855?
I dare say that is the Case.

Do you not conceive 245 Punishments by solitary Confinement is a large Number with reference to 855 Prisoners?
I think not, when we consider the very strict Mode in which we enforce Discipline in our Prison; when Men are put on the Tread-wheels they are desired not to turn their Heads or to look back; if that is done we consider it an Offence, and we inflict a slight Punishment upon them for doing so; probably some of those Solitudes extend only to a few Hours, so that the Number is not extraordinary considering that every minute Offence is punished and recorded.

For how long a Period have you made a Man in his solitary Cell sleep without a Bed?
Many of them Three Nights; many not one Night, because, on visiting them in the Afternoon or Evening, we have found a Feeling of Contrition, and we have restored them to the regular System.

You give no Meat in your Prison?
Not a Particle to healthy Prisoners.

It appears you had Thirty Cases of Sickness in the last Year; were many of those serious Cases?
No, I apprehend not.

Were many of those Cases slight Complaints and Colds?
Yes. Perhaps once in Two or Three Years a Fever may break out, which will account for so large a Number; perhaps we had something of the Kind in that Year.

Do you think the System of enacting Silence is a good one?
I have no Doubt of it, if it could be done completely. I think very great Benefit would be derived both by the Saving of Public Expense by shortening Sentences, and much better Effects produced from Imprisonment by it.

Are you not of opinion, if Silence is not enforced, that the Prisoners do a great deal of Harm one to another?
No Doubt.

Do you not yourself know a great many Instances of Persons going out of Prison a great deal worse than when committed?
There is no Question of it.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence in Devizes permitted to see their Friends?
No, except on very extraordinary Occasions; when any Family Arrangement requires an Interview between them, then they procure an Order for that Purpose.

The Permission to see their Friends is the Exception and not the general Rule?
Just so; we consider their being excluded from seeing their Friends of very great

great Importance to the good Management of Prisons, except on particular Occasions.

Are they allowed to receive any Provisions other than the Gaol Allowance?
No.

Are they allowed to smoke or to have Tobacco?
No.

You think that Luxuries should be excluded from Prisoners under Sentence?
Certainly.

Your Principle would be to make Imprisonment short, but severe?
Yes.

So that the Prisoner should feel on going out that he had been suffering a Punishment?
Yes. I have known many Instances where a Person has been in Confinement, that during the First Month he has felt his Imprisonment severe; but during a long Sentence it wears off, and he becomes more hardened and careless after a certain Time. I am quite sure, in many Cases, if a Prisoner could be discharged, or if his Sentence expired, at a certain Time, that Man would be benefited by the Imprisonment; but, unfortunately for him, perhaps he has Six or Twelve Months longer to remain in Prison, and those Kind of Feelings wear off.

Do you think that the Terms of Imprisonment could be much shortened by calling upon the Prisoner to find Security for good Conduct in Two Sureties?
I think the Difficulty would be to find Securities for such Persons.

Is the Classification in your Prison in strict Conformity with the Enactments of the Gaol Act?
We have but One Class in the Prison. Every Prisoner who comes into Prison is under the same Discipline, whatever his Offence may be.

The Enactment is not obeyed which provides that Persons guilty of Felony shall be in a different Class from the Misdemeanors?
They are kept apart in different Wards. We may call every Ward a different Class.

The Prisoners are employed at the Crank-mill and at the Tread-mill?
They are.

You do not in the Devizes House of Correction give any Part of the Earnings to the Prisoners, but the Magistrates exercise their Discretion, in some Cases, of giving discharged Prisoners Money to take them to their own Homes?
Yes; there is a Standing Order placed in my Hands for such Purposes.

Do you think that the Practice in some Prisons of giving to the Prisoners a Portion of their Earnings is a good System?
I think it a bad System, that it does away with the Horror of a Prison; they look forward for a Purse, and when they go out perhaps it is spent in a careless Manner. I think they are not capable of taking care of any Sums they may get.

Do you not think it objectionable that the Officers of the Prisons should have any Part of the Earnings of the Prisoners?
I think it is.

Do you not think that the Governors, Keepers, and Officers of the Prisons should have a fixed Salary, and an Allowance for travelling Expenses?
Precisely so. They should know what they have to expect, and not have to look to incidental Advantages.

Do your Turnkeys reside within the Prison?
They do.

Do they board within the Prison?
They have a Room, and board themselves.

M. T. Haywood.

Do you not think it desirable that the Officers of the Prison should reside and board within the Prison?
Decidedly so; that is the Case with us; they eat their Meals in the Prison.

May it not be very inconvenient that the Prisoners should know that Three of the Turnkeys leave the Prison at Twelve o'Clock for their Dinner?
Decidedly so.

Have you an Ergometer upon the Tread-mill and Crank-mill?
We have not.

Do you not think it desirable that you should have one, that you might regulate the Amount of Labour?
I do not see the Importance of it; we can regulate the Amount of Labour and ascertain how much they have performed.

Do you think the Prisoners dread the Tread-wheel so much as they did some Years ago?
I think they do, with strict watching and strict Discipline; I think it is a more effective Kind of Labour than it was when first introduced, from the improved Discipline, and from the Partitions which have been subsequently erected.

Do you employ Wardsmen, Monitors, or Yardsmen in Authority over other Prisoners?
We do not.

Do you think that the Appointment to such Offices is a very bad System?
I do; I never could put Confidence or suppose that a Monitor would betray his Fellow Prisoners. I think in many Cases Mischief arises from it; that it is calculated to convey Communications from one Man to another; there is a fellow Feeling between Prisoners, whether committed for a slight Offence or a heavier one; we might select those sent for slight Offences, no Doubt, but still I should not like to place any Reliance upon them. I think nobody but a paid Officer can enforce that Discipline which is requisite.

Do you think, that, instead of the Tread-mill, the Prisoners would consider it as a severe Punishment to walk a given Number of Hours at a certain Distance from each other without speaking?
No, I do not think so; there are Men of lazy indolent Habits, whom nothing but Labour would affect.

By walking for so many Hours at certain Distances where they could have no Communication by speaking, would not the Punishment be greater than the Tread-mill?
I think not; those Kind of Persons are not so easily annoyed, their Feelings are not so easily roused as to suffer from Trifles.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. John Grant.

Mr. JOHN GRANT is called in, and examined as follows:

You are Governor of Northampton Gaol?
I am.

Is it a Common Gaol, or a House of Correction?
Both.

Who appoints the Gaoler?
The Sheriff appoints the Gaoler, and the Magistrates of the County the Keeper of the House of Correction.

How long have you been Governor?
I have been at Northampton nearly Twenty Years; I was for Eleven Years before that at Warwick.

You had 655 Persons in your Custody in the course of the Year ending Michaelmas 1834?
Yes.

The

The largest Number at One Time was 164?
Yes.

Is Silence enacted in your Prison?
Partially.

To what Degree is it enforced?
During the Day while they are at work we can do it, but not in the Night, not having sufficient Means to divide them.

Have you Compartments upon your Tread-mill and Crank-machine?
No, we have not.

Do you think it advisable that the Tread-mill and the Crank-machine should have Compartments, so as to prevent the Prisoners from seeing and communicating with each other when at work?
Very much so; it is very desirable.

Under what Authority have you endeavoured to enforce Silence?
Only by Direction of the Magistrates.

Your Punishment for breaking Silence is another Turn upon the Tread-mill?
It is. I have brought a Plan of our present Tread-mill to show how easily Separation could be effected; I think there might be Silence on the present Tread-mill. We might also have Seventy-two Cells; by that Means we should have the whole of the Prison, or nearly so, in Cells, and this Part would take almost the whole of the House of Correction.

Do you think it very advisable to have separate Cells?
I do.

Under Column 1. of the Return you have made to the Secretary of State, it appears that the Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping Cells is Seventeen?
That would be all.

The Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing, where more than One Prisoner sleeps in One Cell, is 156?
Yes.

It appears that the greatest Number of Prisoners you had in the last Year was 164, exclusive of Debtors?
Yes.

Therefore you were obliged to put them more than Three in a Cell?
That was exclusive of the Cells at the Bottom of the Prison.

Still there would be One or Two that you would put in the Infirmary?
Yes; we have had as many as Six, I think not more, at a Time.

You conceive that you ought to have 164 Cells?
We ought to have more.

Will you explain how you have classed the Prisoners in your Prison; where were the Twelve Male Debtors and the Two Female Debtors placed?
The Male Debtors are in the Part of the Prison appropriated for that Purpose, by themselves.

Have they separate Cells?
Some Part of them; they have a large Day-room and a large Yard; there are Two Day-rooms in fact.

Where are the Two Female Debtors?
In a separate Place over the Prison Chapel.

Have they a Yard?
They come down and walk on the Green opposite to my House, within the Walls of the Prison.

They have no Communication with any of the Males?
None.

Mr. John Grant.

That Yard is a Thoroughfare, through which every one comes up to your House?
Yes.

Where do you put Persons charged, before Trial, with Felony; are they in a Class by themselves?
Yes.

Do you put the Persons charged with Misdemeanors in a Class by themselves?
Yes.

Do you place Persons committed to give Evidence upon the Part of the Crown in a separate Part of the Prison?
Separate from those they are to give Evidence against, but not from other Prisoners; we have not the Means.

Do you not think it desirable you should have the Means of so classing them?
Most desirable.

Is it not enacted in the Gaol Act that you should do so?
Yes, but we have not the Means.

Do you keep the Persons convicted of Felony in Classes together?
I do.

And Misdemeanants together?
Yes.

And Vagrants together?
Not all together.

Where are they placed?
The Vagrants are some Hours kept at work at the Tread-mill, and, being sentenced to hard Labour, are not allowed to go to the Day-room.

Where do you place a Deserter who is placed in your Charge for safe Custody?
I always put them by themselves in a Room.

The Males and Females are never allowed to communicate with each other in the Gaol?
Never.

Is the Dietary for the "Prisoners for Trial, or sentenced for a longer Period than a Month, One Pound and a Half of Bread per Day, and Soup of the Value of 1*d.*, the Cost of which is 2*s.* 0½*d.* per Week? Prisoners convicted and sentenced, not exceeding One Month, and during the last Month, do they receive One Pound and a Half of Bread only, the Cost of which is 1*s.* 5½*d.* per Week? Prisoners convicted or committed in Execution, having been imprisoned previously, during the last Two Years receive One Pound of Bread, and Soup of the Value of 1*d.* per Day, the Cost of which is 1*s.* 6½*d.* per Week?" It appears that you give less Dietary to Persons who have been before committed than to those in for their First Offences?
Yes.

Do you think that is beneficial?
I do.

Do you think that is enough to enable them to undergo hard Labour?
I do.

If found enough for those who have been before convicted, can you see any Reason why it should not be enough for those who are sent there for the First Time?
I think it might, but it was intended as a Punishment.

If the Dietary for Persons who have been before convicted is enough, is it not more than sufficient for those who are committed for the First Time?
I should hardly think it is too great; I think it is intended very wisely to let them know they are come to Gaol again.

Mr. John Grant.

Do you not know many Labourers of good Characters who are not enabled to procure for themselves, if they have large Families, so good a Diet as the Prisoners receive?

I did formerly, but not now.

Do you think that the Object of sending a Man to Prison is to induce him to reform himself as well as to deter others from violating the Laws?

I do.

Do you think it most desirable that a House of Correction should be a Place of Punishment for convicted Prisoners?

I do.

Do you not think that the less the Diet is that a convicted Prisoner receives, consistently with Health, the better?

I should doubt the going lower than we have done; I think that our Surgeon agrees with me.

How does he account for those committed a Second Time being enabled to do with less?

He watches them, and I always do; and if I see any Occasion I always call in the Surgeon immediately; his Journal will show that the Scale of Diet we now give is not too high.

Those Persons re-committed probably have to undergo a longer Term of Imprisonment than they had before?

That is not exactly the Case; it was with a view of giving shorter Imprisonment that the Magistrates made that Alteration.

Why are they not enabled on the First Conviction to maintain their Health on as small a Diet as afterwards?

I cannot say why, exactly; I have had a great deal of Conversation with the Surgeon; I converse with him every Week, and sometimes every Day, upon it.

As you consider that the reducing the Diet on a Second Conviction is considered as a Punishment, would it not be likely to deter Persons from committing Second Offences, when they are aware that, upon Re-committal, they will be placed on a reduced Diet?

Yes, perhaps it might.

The Surgeon has full Discretion to order Extras when he considers it necessary?

Yes.

Do you find a larger Quantity of Extras ordered to the Prisoners convicted of a Second Offence than to those who have been convicted only once?

We have very little Extras indeed; no Gaol in England has had less sick than we have had; that will appear, I think, by the Returns.

A great many of those returned as sick were very trifling Cases of Cold?

Yes.

Whenever a Prisoner is placed on the Doctor's Book, even if he only requires One Dose of Physic, his Name is inserted in the Journal?

Yes; the Surgeon himself inserts his Name.

It appears that the Earnings are given partly to the Gaoler and partly to the County Stock; should you not prefer having a fixed Salary to receiving a Portion of the Earnings?

I should.

Do you not think it better in Principle that you should know exactly what your Income is to be, and not to leave it to be fluctuating?

I do; and I have laid a Scale before the Magistrates, showing them my Income and Earnings for Seven Years, and wishing them to take it into consideration, and to give me the Average of the Earnings.

Do you not think that as much Work would be done?

I think that there would be as much done in any Gaol in England if it was by Salary. I should feel more at liberty in consequence of that.

Mr. John. Grant.

Do you not think that the Prisoners may misinterpret your Motives in making them work hard, when they know it is your personal pecuniary Interest to do so?
Yes.

Do you think it would be desirable to have an Ergometer, to ascertain the Amount of Labour performed?
It might be.

Are you of opinion that it is very desirable to keep the Prisoners from communicating with each other?
I think it very desirable.

Do you not believe that a great Number of Prisoners leave the Prisons worse than when committed?
A great many.

From Communication with abandoned Characters in the Prison?
Yes.

Do you allow smoking?
To those for Trial; not after Conviction.

Do you not think that it ought to be prohibited to all?
Some of the Surgeons have thought it was beneficial to the Health of the Prisoners. I should be glad to see it done away with.

Are Prisoners under Conviction permitted to receive any thing other than the Gaol Allowance?
No.

You think they should not be permitted to receive any Luxury?
Certainly not.

You think that Silence should be enacted in the Prisons to prevent Contamination?
Yes.

What Provisions are allowed to Debtors?
Nothing but Bread.

Are they allowed to procure their own Food?
Yes. It depends upon how they are situate in Life; if they are able to support themselves they are bound to do so.

Are they allowed any thing they wish, except Spirits or Beer?
They are allowed Beer twice a Day,—Two Pints, or a Pint of Wine, but not both; and no Spirits, unless by Order of the Surgeon.

Do the Officers of your Prison reside within the Prison?
All but One.

Do they board within the Prison?
Yes.

Do you think it desirable that the Officers of the Prison should reside within the Prison?
Yes.

Do you think it might be desirable to appropriate a Table to the Officers in the Prison, rather than allowing them an increased Salary to board out of it?
I have no Doubt of that.

Economy would thus be united with Efficiency?
Yes.

Do you think that Day-rooms are injurious to the Morals of the Prisoners?
Yes; if the Plan which I suggested were adopted, there would be a considerable Degree of Separation, having so many different Wards as we have.

Do you think many Persons before Trial get in the Prisons quite as much Contamination by communicating with others as they do after Conviction?
Yes.

You think that ought to be prevented?
Yes.

Do you appoint Monitors or Wardsmen from the Prisoners, with Authority over the others?
I do.

Do you think you can trust them?
Not in every Instance, perhaps, but in most Instances I do.

Do you select those Men because you think they are the best Characters?
Yes.

You do not appoint Wardsmen, &c., who have been convicted, in the untried Wards?
No, I have not in a single Instance.

You would prefer other Officers, but for the Expense?
I should.

Is not the Practice of appointing Prisoners Wardsmen giving a Man a better Situation than he may deserve to have in relation to the Crime he may have committed?
It certainly would be.

Does the Chaplain devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prison?
Yes.

Has he any other Preferment?
No.

What is his Salary?
£200 a Year.

He performs Divine Service twice on Sunday, but only preaches One Sermon?
Yes.

He also attends to catechise the Prisoners, who are supplied with Bibles and other Religious Books?
Yes.

Can you state the average number of Hours he attends in the Week Days?
No, I cannot, because he attends in the Morning or in the Afternoon; he attends at his own Hours; he might come in and out without my seeing him, as one of the Turnkeys attends him.

Do you think he gives Three Hours Attendance in the Day, on the Average?
Certainly not.

He has nothing else to do?
No.

What is your Salary?
£230 a Year.

What is your average Income?
My Income has been 410*l.* 13*s.*, taking it on the Average of Seven Years.

For what Length of Time have you had any Debtors confined?
I have One now that has been Two Years in Gaol.

Do they live in such a Style as makes you conceive that if they lived less expensively in the Gaol that they might pay their Debts instead of remaining?
I think this Man I am alluding to could pay his Debts any Day he pleased.

Do not you think it would be very desirable to make them pay their Debts before they were allowed any Luxuries in the Gaols?
I do.

Does the Chaplain read Prayers every Morning and Evening?
No; there are Prayers every Morning and Evening read by the Monitors;

Mr. John Grant.

I have set Officers about in various Parts of the Prison to see that they were read; they are read in the Day-rooms by the Monitors.

It appears by the Return alluded to, that a Man of the Name of Roger Rolfe, aged 34, charged with Arson, was convicted at the Lent Assizes, February 27th, 1832, and ordered to remain in Gaol until His Majesty's Pleasure be known?
That is wrong.

You mean to say he was acquitted upon the Ground of Insanity?
Yes.

Have the Visiting Justices made any Application to the Secretary of State to remove that Man to a Lunatic Asylum?
I have made an Application myself personally.

What is the Answer you have received?
That as soon as we could get a Place for him, they would issue the Order; the Parish to which he belonged seemed very unwilling to support him; I sent to the Parish Officers requesting them to make Provision, that I might make a Return of him again, and they seemed very anxious to avoid allowing him to go to a Lunatic Asylum, knowing that if he was removed they should have the Expenses to pay.

With whom do you confine Roger Rolfe?
He is now with those convicted of various Offences of Felony.

Which would be of the greatest Advantage to him, to send him to a Lunatic Asylum, or to keep him in the Gaol?
To send him to a Lunatic Asylum.

There he might be attended to by a Medical Man conversant with his Disease?
Yes.

Is not the Detention of an Insane Person in a Gaol attended with great Inconvenience to the Discipline of the Prison?
Very great.

Is there a Lunatic Asylum in the County of Northampton?
There is not; there is one about to be built now.

Do you think it advisable that Prisoners under Sentence should receive Visits from their Friends?
I think certainly not.

It tends to obstruct the Discipline of the Prison, and has a bad Effect on the Prisoners Minds?
Yes, I think it has; also the being allowed to write to their Friends and receive Letters.

Do you think it desirable that Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation should be speedily removed from your Gaol?
Yes.

Have you any Observation to offer to the Committee?
No.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned 'till To-morrow, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Mercurii, 6° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

The Reverend JAMES BROWN is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Chaplain of the Norfolk County Gaol and House of Correction situated at Norwich?
I am.

What is your Salary?
£300 a Year.

Do you reside in the Neighbourhood of the Prison?
Immediately. About a Furlong.

Are you in the habit of visiting the Prisoners in their Cells?
Yes, constantly; but the Committee of Visiting Justices have appropriated to me for my Use a Room in the midst of the Prison, and it is more convenient and more effectual to send for the Prisoners to that Room, and to examine them there; it is not so injurious to the Health as going to their own Cells, when I want to have a long Conversation with them, but, as it may be necessary, I either go to the Cell or send for them to my own Room. When I examine a Class, I always send for it to my own Room.

There is a Schoolmaster appointed?
There is a very efficient Officer.

Paid by the County?
Yes.

Not a Prisoner, of course?
No.

What Service do you perform on the Sunday in the Prison?
Service on both Parts of the Day, the full Service, as the Act prescribes; and I read Prayers every Day.

Do you yourself read the Prayers?
Yes, except occasionally the Curate is permitted to go to the Chapel when I cannot go myself; but I make a point of going when I can.

Are the Prayers read every Morning in the Chapel, or in the Rooms or Wards?
In the Chapel.

In your Opinion, is it necessary that the Chaplain should have private Communication with the Prisoners, that he should examine them in Classes in addition to reading the Prayers?
I think it is quite necessary, especially to have frequent private Communications.

Do you find them generally attentive to you, and to the Duties of Religion?
Very much so, and as a Proof of it, many of the Prisoners who could not read or did not know even the Alphabet when committed, if they have been sentenced to Six Months hard Labour, they have in that Period almost always learned enough to read a Chapter in the Bible, and sometimes in Three Months.

It appears by the Return that the Number of Prisoners committed in the

Rev. James Brown.

Year ending Michaelmas Sessions 1834 was 842; and it appears also by the same Document that the largest Number at One Time was 252?

Upon my Books of those under my Care I have only 231: 252 is probably the correct Number.

Does that include Debtors?

Yes; probably that may be dated from a different Time. When I answered the Queries to your Lordships Committee I took it during the Year.

Do not you think it is most advisable that a Chaplain should devote a great deal of Time to the Religious Instruction of the Prisoners?

I have not a Doubt of it.

You do not think it would be sufficient that a Chaplain should only perform the Two Services on the Sunday, and read the Prayers every Day?

I think he would do very little, comparatively speaking. If my Services have been efficient, I think they have been chiefly so in my private Conversations with the Prisoners. Indeed, I think the Public Duty would not be so well attended to if I had not frequent Communications with them individually or in Classes.

Is Silence enacted in the Norfolk Common Gaol and House of Correction?

As far as it can, but not so effectually as I could wish, from the Construction of the Gaol, and more particularly from the Construction of the Tread-wheel. Wherever Silence can be enacted it has a very beneficial Effect upon the Prison Discipline; indeed, I think it is the Hinge upon which all good Discipline turns.

Do you think that many go out of Prison worse than when committed?

Yes; but not a large Proportion of the Whole. The only Way in which I can correct that is by appointing a Wardsman, who can read, to keep them as constantly employed in the Classes in the Day-rooms as possible; and though I do not expect from a very many of them any Advantage to themselves, it certainly keeps them from talking of their own Crimes, and from Mischief. The more you can keep them employed upon that which is not mere Conversation the more beneficial it is to them.

Do you think that the System of having Day-rooms is a bad one?

Very bad; I look upon it as the very Bane of the Prison.

Are you of opinion that it is very desirable that one uniform System of Prison Discipline should be carried into effect in every Prison in the Country?

I think there can be very little Doubt of that, but it may be difficult to carry the same System into Practice in a large Prison and in a small one; but I have no Doubt as to its being desirable that the best Plan should be adopted in all Gaols.

Do you think that, with a view to having a uniform System, the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons to report to the Secretary of State would be expedient?

I cannot see any Objection to it, because I feel convinced that all Officers in a Prison, who do their Duty, would be glad to be inspected.

Do you think it a good Plan to appoint Prisoners Wardsmen, to exercise Control over other Prisoners?

I do not think the System can be perfect without it. When a Schoolmaster or Turnkey is away you must have somebody to have Authority to report any Irregularities that take place. The Gaoler always consults with myself to have a proper Man; first of all he should be a steady Man, and he should be able to read.

Does a Wardsman get any additional Gaol Allowance for performing the Duty?

Occasionally; there is no fixed Sum; that was offered by the Committee in the first instance, but we did not find that it produced any Effect: occasionally we reward him for extraordinary good Conduct, and he is not sent to labour so much as the others.

Do not you think it is wrong in Principle that a Prisoner, who has been sen-

tenced to Three Months hard Labour for a Violation of the Law, should be placed in an easier Situation than another Prisoner who may not be more guilty, and who, indeed, may have been a Confederate in the Offence for which the former may have been convicted?

He certainly is not so good a Wardsman as one unconnected with Crime; he is always selected for his good Behaviour; and I think the Confidence placed in him has a good Effect upon the Man himself as to Reformation.

What are the Duties of a Wardsman?

If there is any thing against the Rules of the Prison committed by any of the Prisoners, it is his Business to report it.

Do you think that they do report every Irregularity?

Too frequently I find they will not report Irregularities; we have had occasion to displace a Wardsman or Two lately, in consequence of their not doing their Duty.

Do you appoint a convicted Prisoner as a Wardsman over untried Prisoners?

No.

If a bad Wardsman is appointed will he not very probably contaminate the other Prisoners?

Not more than he would if he was not a Wardsman, whilst the System of Day-rooms continues, because he would have equal Access to them; if there were no Day-rooms, certainly he would have a greater Power of contaminating.

Do not you think it very desirable that every Prisoner should be placed in a separate Cell?

I have not a Doubt of it.

Would not that Arrangement prevent a great Deal of the Contamination that now takes place?

Very much.

Do you think it as desirable for untried as for tried Prisoners?

Quite as much.

Do you think it is most desirable that a Man who may be innocent should not be contaminated by the Associates he meets with in the Prisons?

Beyond all Doubt.

You have separate Tread-wheels?

Yes, there are Four separate Wheels.

Are there Compartments upon the Tread-wheel to prevent the Prisoners from seeing each other?

No, not between Individuals in the same Class.

Do not you think it would be very desirable that they should be so separated?

I have reported so more than once to the Quarter Sessions. I think it is very desirable. I have never seen Gloucester, but I understand it is adopted there, and I am convinced it would have a very beneficial Effect; it would promote Silence. In our own Wheels it is impossible for the Task-master to exact Silence from the Prisoners; they are placed at Right Angles to the Front, and we cannot see to the further End of each Wheel sufficiently to detect a Person that is offending.

In the Norfolk Gaol and House of Correction there appear to have been in the last Year Fifty-one Persons placed in Irons; are you aware why that Punishment was resorted to?

For an Attempt to break out of Prison.

Is the Prison secure?

I think it is with the Vigilance that is used; the Boundary Wall is too low; if they once get to the Boundary Wall they may get out; but we have had very few Escapes.

It appears that the Punishments for Offences in the Year were Two Whippings, Fifty-two in Irons, and Twenty-two other Punishments, but none in solitary

Rev. James Brown.

solitary Confinement. Do not you think that solitary Confinement for the short Period which is permitted under the Gaol Act would be a preferable Punishment to putting Prisoners in Irons?

I think it would. I do not apprehend that those Men were put into Irons with a view of reforming them, but only for safe Custody; there was a Conspiracy to get out, and I believe they had intended to attack the Turnkeys.

How long were they ironed?

I do not recollect; they were Men under Sentence of Transportation; some of them were desperate Characters.

They were kept in Irons 'till they were sent to the Hulks?

If I recollect rightly they were.

It appears by the Return that one Prisoner strangled himself; do you know whether that Prisoner was in solitary Confinement?

Certainly not; he might be in his Cell at the Time for a Day, but not under Sentence of solitary Confinement; I believe he was untried and very recently committed.

Do not you think that the Practice in the Norfolk Gaol and House of Correction of placing the Earnings of the Prisoners to the County Account is much better than giving any Portion of it to the Officers of the Prison or to the Prisoners themselves?

Indisputably.

Are the Wardsmen permitted to procure any thing for the Prisoners, either before or after Trial?

Certainly not; before Trial the Prisoners are permitted to purchase Milk, but the Wardsman has nothing to do with it, and a certain Quantity of Radishes or Onions, provided they are not maintained by the County. If they are of a superior Class, and not maintained by the County, then they have such Indulgences as the Committee of Visiting Magistrates may think proper.

Are they permitted before Trial to purchase Spirits, Beer, or to smoke?

No; nor to use Tobacco anyhow.

Of course, when convicted, they are not permitted to have any Luxuries?

Not any. I have hardly known any Case in which the Prisoners have been of a Description to apply for them. When they are maintained by the County of course they are obliged to be content with the Prison Allowance, unless they are ill, and then they have Indulgences under the Advice of the Surgeon; we have sometimes had a Case of Scurvy, and then a Meat Diet and Porter is allowed.

It is then given, not as a Luxury, but as a Medicine?

Exactly so.

Can you inform the Committee whether the Debtors are permitted to receive as much as they please; or whether the Visiting Justices prevent them from receiving more than a fixed Allowance?

They are hindered from receiving Spirits or Wine; they have a certain Quantity of Ale allowed them; and if it is necessary for their Health, under the Direction of the Surgeon, they may have something more; but as for Meat, or Provisions of that Kind, there is no Restriction that I am aware of.

Are they permitted to smoke?

They are.

Have you had any Persons of late Years in the Common Gaol and House of Correction at Norfolk who have been acquitted upon the Ground of Insanity?

There have been Two or Three Cases; Kenny and Scott were the Names of Two of them, but I forget the Name of the other Person.

Do not you think that it would be Humanity to those unfortunate Persons, as well as a great Advantage to the Discipline of the Prison, that they should be removed to Lunatic Asylums, and not retained in the Gaol?

They are not retained there; by special Application to the Secretary of State they have been removed; we made every Exertion to get rid of them; they quite interfered with the Discipline of the Prison.

Do not you think it is very desirable for the Discipline of the Gaol, that Persons who are sentenced to be transported, should be removed as quickly as possible from the Gaol? *Rev. James Brown.*

Beyond a Doubt.

What is the Amount of the Schoolmaster's Salary?

Twenty-one or Twenty-two Shillings a Week.

By whom is he appointed?

By the Visiting Justices.

To whom does he give his Instruction?

To every Class in the Prison; he goes from Class to Class as I require him, whilst they are at work; there is a small Room near the Tread-wheel, into which he takes the Men who are at rest, while the others are working at the Wheel; he uses that Opportunity to take them out and instruct them one by one.

Has he any Directions from you as to the Course of Instruction he shall give them, or is it only reading and writing?

They read, and get certain Prayers and Portions of Instruction by rote. I direct what they shall read, generally the Scriptures; he is placed entirely under my Direction by the Magistrates; he is there from Morning 'till Night, and if he has any leisure Time he is employed about the Gaol, for what the Gaoler may want of him, with my Permission. It is desirable that his Time should be filled up in the Gaol, and he relieves the Turnkeys when they go Home.

Does he live in the Prison?

At a small Distance from it; he is in the Prison from Morning 'till Night.

Does he communicate with the Prisoners individually or in Classes?

Both in the Classes and with Individuals; the latter is necessary, because many of the Individuals are confined in the Cells.

How long have you had a Schoolmaster?

From almost the first of my Appointment, in the Year 1825, as soon as the System was at all adopted. I was appointed in the Beginning of 1825, and he was appointed soon after.

How many Hours a Day do you devote to the Duties of the Prison?

That is as my Services may be wanted; I have no certain Time, but I always go at Half past Nine to read the Prayers, and I continue as long as there is any Good to be answered by my continuing; sometimes I am there even 'till Five o'Clock, or to my Dinner-time, *i.e.* Four o'Clock; at other Times I am only there 'till One, or not so long. It is hardly ever that Two Days will require the same Attention.

Have you any other Duty?

I have the Perpetual Curacy of a Parish immediately adjoining the Prison, Part of the Duties of which I perform. As soon as I was appointed Chaplain to the Magistrates I employed a Curate there, that my Duty might not be neglected, and I find that it does not at all interfere with my Duties at the Gaol, because I have always a Curate to attend to my Duty there.

But he does not attend the Prison?

Occasionally; merely to read the Prayers when I cannot be there myself.

Your chief Object is the Prison?

It is, and I feel a great deal of Pleasure in it, except in some Parts of the Duty.

Do you find that solitary Confinement has a great Effect upon the Minds of the Prisoners?

Undoubtedly.

Do you find that their Minds sink under it, that they become deranged?

We have never had a Sentence of solitary Confinement for a sufficient Length of Time to enable me to judge of its full Effect, and from the Construction of the Prison we cannot keep them sufficiently separate from the other Prisoners. I have never known any ill Effect from it, and uniformly I think solitary Confinement has produced good Effects; but our Gaol being

Rev. James Brown.

commonly full, it is very seldom that we can separate a Prisoner so much that he cannot talk during the Night, or at other Times.

Do not you think that every Prison may be so contrived that the same Discipline may be carried into execution in every one?
I have no Doubt of it.

Have you witnessed any beneficial Influence upon the Minds of Prisoners from the Religious Instruction you have given them?
I hope I have very frequently, and I draw that Conclusion both from my own Observation, and from the Reports of Friends, after the Prisoners have left the Gaol, from both Magistrates and Clergymen. The other Day I had a particular Communication from Mr. ———— a Magistrate and a Clergyman, requesting me to pay particular Attention to a young Man he had sent to the Gaol, in consequence of the Benefit some others had received in his Parish.

At what Hour are the Afternoon Prayers read in the Prison?
There are no Prayers in the Afternoon, only in the Morning.

You stated that the Justices have set apart a Room for you to examine the Prisoners in; is there any particular Period of the Day fixed for that Examination?
No. I retire to that Room as soon as I have read the Prayers; my first Duty is to examine Prisoners that have been recently committed, or any that are going out. I make a Point of having Conversation with Prisoners when they are first committed, to learn what Particulars I can from them, and very frequently the Magistrates and others send me Information which is of great Importance respecting their History; and after I have got all the Information I can, I then inquire whether any are going out, and I examine them before they go, and give them Instruction and Advice, and frequently Books, and sometimes I reward them from a small Fund I have in my Hands for their Benefit.

Then, with respect to the Prisoners under Sentence, there is no Time set apart for their Religious Instruction on the Week Day, except the Hour of Prayer?
There is no determined Portion in each Day. The Schoolmaster goes from Class to Class, and I take them regularly after him to see what they have done, but I do not take that daily. I find more Effect produced by speaking to them individually, and then taking them periodically to examine as to the Progress they have made. When I think that the Prisoners, from any Circumstances that may arise, may want my Advice, I send for them.

What Opportunities have you of seeing the Prisoners separately?
At all Times. I can always send for them from the Mill.

And you have Permission from the Visiting Justices to do so?
Yes; and besides, I so contrive that it does not interfere with their Labour. I either wait 'till the Man comes off the Wheel, or if he purposely comes off the Wheel, another takes his Place, and he goes on again.

Do you think that that affords sufficient Opportunity for their Religious Instruction, or do you think it would be more advantageous if a Portion of each Day was set apart for that Purpose?
I think that would not have so beneficial an Effect; I think that formal Instruction would not be so useful as the Chaplain being left to his own Discretion, because his Time might be wasted upon Prisoners that would receive less Benefit from it.

In your Intercourse with the Prisoners have you ever heard them complain that while they were in the Day-room they were interrupted by other Prisoners in reading the Religious Books you have given them?
Not unfrequently; that has been one Cause of the Wardsmen reporting sometimes.

Do not you suppose that little Attention is paid to those Books and to reading while the Prisoners are in the Day-room?
I have Reason to think so with some of them.

Do you ever administer the Sacrament in the Prison?
Not very often; the Generality of the Sentences are not long enough to make me satisfied with recommending it; but wherever there is an Execution the Prisoners have an Opportunity with my Approbation. There was very lately an Execution, and only One Prisoner was admitted to the Sacrament. He is under Sentence of Transportation. *Rev. James Brown.*

It is not administered by you periodically to those of the Officers of the Prison who may wish to receive it?
No, it is not.

Would you see any Objection to that, leaving it to you to judge who should be admitted to it?
I should see no Objection to it; I should think it advisable, if they would attend.

Has not it frequently happened that the Magistrates assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, upon receiving your Report to the Visiting Justices, have testified their high Approbation of it, by ordering it to be printed and circulated throughout the County?
They have, at Three separate Times.

Have you not a great many Prisoners confined in the same Wards at Norwich?
Sometimes Thirty or Forty, according to the Number of the Prisoners.

Is not it very prejudicial to have so many Prisoners together?
It would be better not to have so many; it would be better that a Ward should not contain more than can be accommodated separately in the Cells. Even where Three have been confined in One sleeping Cell some very improper Conversation has happened; and the last Investigation I had to make showed the Impropriety of suffering Three to sleep together. I hope there were no improper Practices, but there was Conversation that would lead to very improper Practices.

When you expressed a Doubt as to the Possibility of carrying into effect in all the Prisons one uniform System of Prison Discipline, do you not think it would not be very difficult to enforce Silence if the Day-rooms were abolished, if separate sleeping Cells were given to every Prisoner, and if Compartments were made upon the Tread-wheels and Crank-machines?
To a very great Extent. I doubt whether you could prevent them from conversing together at Night in the Cells; in every other respect it would correct the Evil.

Would it not be possible by having Peep Holes, and by having a Turnkey to perambulate the Passages at Night with List Shoes, to check any Conversation which might contaminate?
It is resorted to in the Prison now, and it would have that Effect to a great Extent, but a Turnkey is not likely to be upon the Watch all Night.

You consider that the nearer you can approach to perfect Silence the better?
I am perfectly convinced of it; it is the very Acme of Prison Discipline to prevent them as much as possible from communicating.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. JOHN KEENE is called in, and examined as follows: *Mr. John Keene*

You are the Governor of the County Gaol of Surrey, situated in Horsemonger Lane?
I am.

It is a Common Gaol for Debtors, and for Persons before Trial?
And for the Reception of Prisoners committed under summary Convictions Assaults, who are not sentenced to hard Labour.

Is Silence enacted in your Prison?
It is not.

Mr. John Keene.

Do you think it would be an Advantage if it were enacted?
Most certainly.

Do you think it could be carried into execution with some little Alteration?
I fear not to the full Extent.

You have Day-rooms?
Yes.

Are Religious Books placed in the Day-rooms?
They are.

Do you not find that the Prisoners constantly write in those Books and deface them?
I do.

Have you great Difficulty in preventing their doing so, from the Numbers congregated in the Day-rooms?
Yes.

You have no Employment for the Prisoners?
None at all.

How many are the greatest Number in One Class?
We have sometimes from Twenty to Thirty. I have known as many as Twenty-five frequently.

Do they remain in your Custody the Night after their Conviction?
Not at all Times; on Conviction they are sentenced to be imprisoned in the Houses of Correction at Guildford or Brixton? they are sometimes sent to Brixton that Night.

How many Years have you been the Governor of Horsemonger Lane?
About Sixteen Months.

You came from the Guildford House of Correction?
Yes.

In giving a strong Opinion in favour of Silence, do you speak very much from your Experience in the House of Correction of Guildford?
Yes.

There is a Chaplain in the Horsemonger Lane Prison?
Yes.

Does he read the Morning and Evening Service, and preach One Sermon, on the Sundays?
He does.

Does he read the Morning Service on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and on Wednesdays assemble the Prisoners in the Chapel for Instruction?
Yes.

Does he visit the sick, and all those in solitary Confinement?
He does; he visits the Prison daily.

Have you any Insane Person now in your Custody?
Yes, a Female named Sarah Burberry; she was tried at the last Assizes, charged with the Murder of her Child, and acquitted on the Ground of Insanity.

Have any Steps been taken to remove her to a Lunatic Asylum?
There has been no Meeting of the Visiting Magistrates since the Assizes; her Case will be reported on Friday next.

Do you expect that she will be removed to a Lunatic Asylum?
I do.

Do not you think it advisable that Lunatics should be as speedily removed as possible from the Prisons?
Most certainly.

Do they interfere very much with the Discipline?
They do.

From

From what you have seen at Guildford, are you of opinion that it is a good System to give the Prisoners any Part of their Earnings during the Time they are in Prison?

I cannot say that it is; it has been discontinued at Guildford of late.

Do not you think it would be much better that the Gaoler and Officers of the Prisons should be paid by fixed Salaries, with Allowances for travelling, instead of receiving any Part of the Earnings of the Prisoners?

I think it would.

Would it not be more satisfactory to the Gaolers themselves?

It would.

Are the Prisoners in Horsemonger Lane Gaol permitted to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?

Persons committed for Trial may support themselves if they can do so; but those that cannot so do are kept strictly upon Prison Allowance.

Are the Prisoners on the Criminal Side permitted to smoke?

No.

Are those that can maintain themselves permitted to receive any Quantity, or is it a fixed Allowance?

No, it is not a fixed Allowance; the Rules state a reasonable Quantity in every Twenty-four Hours.

Are they permitted to have Beer or Spirits?

No.

Do you appoint Wardsmen in your Prison?

Yes.

Are they tried or untried Prisoners?

That depends on Circumstances. There are Two Transports kept back in Horsemonger Gaol for the express Purpose of acting as Wardsmen; they were there at the Time I took charge of the Prison.

Those Men were kept in the Gaol, instead of being sent Abroad, for the Purpose of being Wardsmen and exercising Authority over other Prisoners?

We do not allow them to exercise Authority; they are merely for the Purpose of keeping the Place clean.

You do not permit them to sell any thing to the Prisoners?

Not if I know it.

Or to let Bedding, or any thing else?

No.

Do you think it a good System to employ convicted Prisoners as Wardsmen over untried Prisoners?

I do not know that it is, but we frequently have not an Opportunity of selecting Persons that would clean the Prisons. I have never kept back a Prisoner of that Description, and I do not approve of it myself.

Do you suppose that they were kept back in consequence of their Moral Character being better than the others, or because they were Men more likely to suit the Situation?

I think because they were more likely to suit the Situation.

Do not you think it would be very desirable to confine Prisoners as much as possible in separate Cells?

I do.

Do not you think that Day-rooms are very prejudicial?

I do.

Do not many Persons go out of Prison much worse than when committed, from the Contamination of others?

I have no Doubt of it.

Are the Prisoners permitted to see their Friends as often as they think fit in Horsemonger Lane?

Untried Prisoners see their Friends every Day, except Sunday, from Twelve

Mr. John Keene.

to Two. Prisoners committed for Nonpayment of Penalties are allowed to see their Friends at the same Time. Prisoners under Conviction of Felony and under Sentence of Transportation are allowed to see their Friends once a Week only, by an Order from a Visiting Magistrate.

In the Presence of an Officer?

The Number of Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation is at Times very great; they see them through an Iron Railing; the Day Watchmen are always present.

Have you a Surgeon?

There is a Surgeon of the Establishment; he is not resident.

How near to the Prison does he reside?

He has only been appointed within the last Month: I think about a Mile.

How often does he attend the Prison?

Daily; and as often as I send for him.

When a Man is committed to your Prison he is placed in the Receiving Cell before he can be put into a Class, according to the Provisions of the Gaol Act?

He is, and is not put into a Class 'till he has been examined by the Surgeon.

Is he kept a long Period before he is examined by the Surgeon?

The Commitments generally come in at Night, and the Surgeon does not see them 'till the next Day about Twelve o'Clock.

You receive a great many Commitments from the Police Offices, and the Prisoners are brought in Vans?

Yes.

Do not you think it would be desirable that the Surgeon should attend every Evening at Five o'Clock, the usual Hour at which the Van arrives?

If he attended at Five o'Clock he might see most of them, but sometimes the Van comes in much later; it depends upon the Business of the Police Offices.

Do not you think it is most desirable that Convicts under Sentence of Transportation should be removed as quickly as possible from the Prisons?

Certainly.

Have you a Schoolmaster?

No.

But you appoint a Prisoner to instruct the Boys?

A Prisoner to teach the Boys.

Do you know how long the Person now acting as Schoolmaster has been a Prisoner?

Three or Four Months; he was tried at the last March Assizes, and convicted of a Misdemeanor.

Do not you find that Boys of a very tender Age are often committed to your Charge?

Frequently.

Do you often have them come again?

Frequently.

Have you many disorderly Women committed to your Custody?

A great Number of common Drunkards, who are committed for Want of Sureties.

Are not they very difficult Persons to control?

They are.

When you say that you have Persons committed for Nonpayment of Penalties, are they Persons that have been convicted by a Magistrate for Misconduct, as Omnibus and Cab Drivers?

No; such Prisoners are sent to the House of Correction at Kingston upon Thames: the Persons committed to Horsemonger Gaol are Persons convicted of Assaults, and imprisoned for Nonpayment of the Penalties.

Are

Are many of the Prisoners Persons that have been repeatedly committed?
Many of them Seven, Eight, or more Times; that is principally with the disorderly Prisoners and common Drunkards.

It appears that in the County Gaol of Surrey, in the Year 1834, you had 109 Male and 9 Female Debtors; did those Debtors generally maintain themselves, or were they maintained at the Expense of the County?
I believe about Two Thirds maintain themselves.

Are they permitted to receive any thing that they think fit from their Friends?
They are; but limited as to Drink; they are allowed to have Two Pints of Malt Liquor a Day, and no Spirits or Wine.

But they are not limited as to Provisions?
The Rules state a reasonable Quantity in every Twenty-four Hours.

Do they dine altogether or separately?
They have different Rooms; some of them mess Three or Four together.

Are their Friends permitted to come in and dine with them?
Yes.

And they are permitted to smoke?
Yes.

Are those that are maintained by the County permitted to receive any thing from their Friends?
No.

Are they permitted to smoke?
No; I have no Doubt that many of them do smoke unknown to me, for they get a Supply of Tobacco from the others.

If a Woman chooses to visit a Debtor, is she allowed to go in the Debtors Yard?
She is; she goes to his Room.

Have they separate Rooms?
They have separate Rooms; there is One Part of the Gaol called the Master's Side, and we usually put Two in a Room; in some of the Rooms on the Common Side we only put One, in others as many as Five, the Rooms being of different Sizes.

Any Woman may visit a Debtor if she thinks fit?
At any Time from Nine in the Morning 'till Six in the Evening at this Season of the Year.

And she may remain the Whole of that Time with him, and go into his Room?
Yes.

With respect to the Female Debtors, may they receive Male as well as Female Visitors?
Yes.

And they do receive their Visitors in their Rooms?
They do.

Do not you find it very difficult to keep Order among the Debtors, from the Circumstance of your not having any solitary Cells on the Debtors Side?
Yes.

Some Doubts having been felt as to whether the Gaoler would not expose himself to an Action if he, for the maintaining the Discipline of the Gaol, was to remove the Debtor to the Felons Side?
Yes.

Do you not think it would be most advisable that there should be solitary Cells for Punishment upon the Debtors Side, to enable you to maintain Discipline?
I do.

Mr. John Keene.

Are they not often noisy?
Frequently noisy.

You are quite of opinion that the Discipline of the Criminal Prisoners requires a Change, and that the Discipline of the Debtors Side requires Reform also?
Yes.

What Means have you of enforcing Discipline among the Debtors?
If one Prisoner assault another, or is noisy, I have him locked up in the Infirmary, in a Room by himself, when I have had no sick there, and I keep him on Bread and Water.

Do they pay any Money for the Accommodation of the Rooms?
Not for the Rooms. The Master Debtors pay me for Bedding, unless they provide it themselves.

Are they permitted to receive Provisions from their Friends?
Their Friends bring it in daily; the Turnkey when they come to the Gate examines their Basket to see that it contains only Food, and then he passes it on.

When a Friend comes to dine with them, are they allowed to have any thing besides Malt Liquor?
No; we do not allow the Friends to have any Drink in at all; we do not allow a Person to have an extra Quantity because he has Friends with him.

In point of fact, are the Men often visited by Women?
Very frequently.

Do they stay long with them?
Three or Four Hours; sometimes longer.

Do you believe that profligate Women sometimes visit the Debtors?
Yes, I have heard since I have been at Horsemonger Gaol of their being detected in the Room.

Do you think that many Debtors continue there who might pay their Debts if they chose to do so?
I think that is the Case with some.

Are there many Debtors for very small Sums?
At this Time there are Thirty or Forty Court of Requests Debtors for Debts under *5l.*

Are there many in Confinement for Tally Debts?
I think there are not many now, but there are frequently Debtors that come in consequence of Tally Debts.

How long have any of the Debtors been confined there?
One has been there upwards of Four or Five Years.

Have the Debtors Day-rooms?
No, they have no Day-rooms.

You do not allow gambling, but from the Number that associate in the Day-rooms on the Felons Side it is very difficult to prevent them from playing at Heads and Tails, and other gambling of that Sort?
It is, but we check that as much as possible.

Is there any Suggestion that you can offer to the Committee as to an Improvement of the Gaol Act, or any thing relating to Prison Discipline?
The only thing I can recommend is Separation, and the Enforcement of Silence as much as possible.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. JOHN ORRIDGE is called in, and examined as follows: *Mr. John Orridge*

You are the Governor of the Prison at Bury St. Edmund's, in the County of Suffolk?
I am.

How many Years have you been the Governor of that Prison?
Thirty-seven Years.

It is a House of Correction for the Liberty and Borough of Bury St. Edmund's, and is under the Superintendence of the Sheriff, and Lord Bristol as Lord of the Liberty, and the Magistrates of the County?
It is.

It appears that in the Year ending Michaelmas 1834 you had 892 Male and Female Prisoners, and 28 Debtors, making a Total of 920 Prisoners?
Yes, from Michaelmas to Michaelmas.

From the long Experience which you have had of Prisons are you of opinion that Silence is advantageous?
I have always thought so, and the first Tread-wheel that was erected under my Superintendence originated with an Idea of my own. I inscribed upon it the Words "You are strictly enjoined to keep Silence," but there was a Variety of Opinions among the Magistrates as to whether I had the Power to enforce it.

Have you Compartments in the Tread-wheel?
No.

Do you not think it would be desirable to have Compartments upon the Tread-wheels and Crank-machines?
I should think that Separation is always desirable. Having been the First Mill erected we were rather limited; I found that we should lose Power; I found that where we employ Nine we could only employ Seven; but it must certainly aid the System to preserve Silence, and with a view of doing so there is an Officer appointed to the Wheel, and he walks backwards and forwards to see that Order is observed.

Do you permit them to turn their Heads round if anybody goes into the Yard?
There has been no Order upon that Subject at all.

Do you think it advisable that Prisoners should be kept in separate Cells at Night?
That we have always done as far as the limited Nature of the Place would enable us to do.

Have you Day-rooms?
We have, but latterly they have taken their Meals in their respective Cells, and the others are only used for washing and cleaning, and so on.

Do not you think it very advisable that the Day-rooms should be abolished?
To some Class of Prisoners it might be requisite, but to convicted Prisoners I do not think it at all requisite.

With respect to convicted Prisoners, is not the Classification of the Gaol Act erroneous, as the Prisoner for a Misdemeanor, who is classed with the Misdemeanant, may have been convicted before of Felony?
That is somewhat remedied in this Way: I class them according to their Character and Conduct rather than by the Offences with which they are charged, because it frequently occurs that the greatest Scoundrel has been convicted upon a trifling Offence, the Parties not having been able to detect him in the larger one.

Do not you believe that many Persons leave the Prisons in this Country much worse than when committed, from the Contamination of others of more abandoned and depraved Characters?
I am afraid there are too many Instances of it.

In Bury St. Edmund's Prison the County receives Four Fifths of the Prisoners

Mr. John Orridge.

Earnings, and One Fifth is paid to the Governor. Do not you think it would be more satisfactory to the Governors that they should have a fixed Salary, with an Allowance for travelling Expenses, and nothing to do with the Earnings of the Prisoners?

I think it would, and I think nobody could be dissatisfied with it.

What is your Salary?

500*l.* a Year.

What is the Amount of the Prisoners Earnings that you receive?

I have a certain Sum allowed me to provide Officers, which Sum is not sufficient, and therefore I have One Fifth Share of the Earnings of the Mill to enable me to pay what the County does not pay, to find the Officers.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence in your Prison permitted to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?

No, they are confined to the Diet of the Place; but lately the Visiting Magistrates made this Alteration, that after a Man has been imprisoned Three Months, if it should be the Opinion of the Surgeon or Governor that more Diet was requisite, he has been allowed to buy a Quartern Loaf a Week, but nothing but Bread.

Are they allowed to smoke?

No; it is an Offence, and punished if detected.

Before Trial are they permitted to smoke?

No; we permit the Use of Tobacco now only amongst the Debtors. The First Seven Years of my being Governor we had only One Yard, in which all Descriptions of Prisoners were huddled together, and Two Rooms for their sleeping, and now it is divided into Classes, and a Separation is made.

Are many of the Prisoners allowed, upon the Surgeon's Recommendation, to apply for extra Bread in the Way you have just stated?

I think they generally do it.

Do many of them apply for it when there is no Necessity?

Yes, I think so.

Do not you think that a convicted Prisoner should not be permitted to receive other than the Gaol Allowance, unless by a specific Order of the Surgeon, who should state in his Journal his Reasons for granting it?

Undoubtedly, I think that is far preferable.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?

A Rule has lately been adopted, by which, after Conviction, they receive no Visits from their Friends until the Expiration of Three Months after their Conviction; our Visiting Day is the First Saturday in every Month; and they never have any Communication from Abroad 'till after they have been under Conviction Three Months, and then after that Period they may receive Permission to see their Friends once every Month, which I think much too often.

In your Opinion would it not be productive of Benefit to the Discipline of the Prison and to the Behaviour of the Prisoners if Prisoners under Sentence for a Term not exceeding Six Calendar Months were not permitted to receive any Visits from their Friends?

I would admit no Visits to Persons of that Description, except there should be Illness, and the Medical Man was of opinion that there was some Danger.

And you would not permit them to receive Letters?

No; and then when they are confined for longer Periods the Permission to visit should be very seldom.

Have you any Suggestion to offer to the Committee as to any Improvements in the Management or Discipline of Prisons?

I have made out a List of Commitments annually for the last Thirty Years, distinguishing Felons and Misdemeanors, the Number tried in each Year at the Assizes, and this shows the Causes of the Increase and Decrease in certain Proportions for Thirty Years.

The

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows: *Mr. John Orridge.*

List of the Number of Prisoners committed to the Gaol and House of Correction at Bury St. Edmund's, from the Year 1805 to the Year 1834, both inclusive; distinguishing the Felons, Misdemeanors, and the Numbers tried in each Year at the Assizes.

Years.	Total Number of Commitments.	The Numbers charged with Felonies.	The Numbers charged with Misdemeanors.	Number of Assize Prosecutions.
1805	189	52	137	39
1806	179	53	126	29
1807	178	51	127	27
1808	177	52	125	19
1809	194	68	126	26
1810	151	47	104	26
1811	136	40	96	21
1812	194	63	131	21
1813	212	72	140	33
1814	192	44	148	23
1815	292	74	218	28
1816*	418	75	343	48
1817	423	102	321	64
1818	353	98	255	41
1819	398	104	294	48
1820	409	103	306	49
1821	482	112	370	54
1822	480	95	385	41
1823	506	102	404	56
1824	456	108	348	57
1825	440	115	325	21
1826	581	143	438	50
1827	520	135	385	53
1828	518	113	405	28
1829	573	146	427	50
1830	604	155	449	53
1831†	691	177	514	38
1832	744	187	557	58
1833	878	194	684	32
1834	825	155	670	26

* Agricultural Interest Depression began. † Game Laws altered.

John Orridge,
Governor of the Gaol and House of Correction,
Bury St. Edmund's.

Does this Return include Persons committed under summary Convictions?
It includes all, except Debtors.

You have drawn up this Return from the Gaol Journals?
I have, from the Year 1816. When the Depression came upon Agriculture the Numbers much increased; that, I think, was caused by the Badness of the Allowance System and the Non-employment. In the Year 1830 or 1831, when the Game Laws were altered, there was another large Increase, and that, I think, was partly caused by a Man, without Character or Qualification of any Sort, being enabled to take out a Licence to kill Game, and he is thereby authorized to hold whatever Game he pleases; and with us it has been the Practice of the old Scoundrels to do so, and, consequently, they are debauching all the young Men to kill Game that they can now legally hold and sell to the Dealers in Game.

Do you think that before that Change there were many Persons prosecuted for selling Game not being qualified?
No; but I think that accounts for the vast Increase of Commitments at that Period.

Does the Chaplain attend constantly to the Duties of the Prison?
Constantly;

Mr. John Orridge.

Constantly; he does the Duties in the Chapel in the Morning, and then he goes from Class to Class, and from Individual to Individual, during Two or Three Hours in the Day.

Have you a Schoolmaster?
Yes, and he is also Chapel Clerk, and his Duties are to attend from Nine in the Morning 'till Six in the Evening.

What is his Salary?
Fourteen Shillings a Week.

Has the Chaplain any other Preferment?
One of the Conditions of his Appointment was, that he should take no other Duties.

Can you state upon the Average what Portion of Time the Chaplain devotes?
No; sometimes he is there the whole of the Morning, and sometimes Half an Hour or an Hour: perhaps Two or Three Days in the Week he may be there the whole of the Morning, but that is not well defined. If we have anybody in solitary Confinement he visits them.

Does he preach One or Two Sermons upon the Sunday?
Two; Morning and Afternoon.

There was a Boy 15 Years of Age sent from you upon the 27th of last January to the Penitentiary; he stole a Pair of Shoes from his Master's Premises, and was sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; he admits that he had been in Bury Gaol once before; he was strongly recommended by the Chairman and Magistrates of the Sessions as a fit Object to send to the Penitentiary. Do you remember the Boy?
I forget the Particulars, but I remember the Circumstance.

He says that he was Six Weeks the last Time in Bury Gaol, before Trial, and was principally in Seven Ward, which contained above 30 Prisoners; some of them had a Cell to themselves, and there were also Double Cells where Four Prisoners slept?
When the Numbers increase we must put them together.

He states that there were Three Beds close together where the Four Prisoners slept?
That I think is very possible.

He says the Prisoners had an Airing-yard, where they walked and talked as they liked, and that no Officer was present; is that correct?
That is correct.

The Prison Allowance is the same before and after Trial; is that correct?
No, that is not correct.

A Pound and a Half of Bread a Day, and nothing else?
That is incorrect; they have a Pound of Cheese in addition.

Before Trial, if a Prisoner had Money he was permitted to purchase Bread, Butter, Flour, or Meat?
That is correct.

From whom do they purchase these Provisions?
There is a Porter employed, who goes to the different Shops in the Town.

Does that Porter get any Remuneration for his Trouble from the Prisoners?
None whatever.

Is he paid by the County?
Paid by me.

But neither Spirits, Beer, nor Porter is allowed?
Never.

After Trial the Prison Allowance was One Pound and a Half of Bread daily for each Person, except such as were sentenced to hard Labour, who each received Two Pounds and a Quarter of Bread, One Pint of Gruel, and One Quart of Small Beer every Day but Sunday, when they received each Half a Pound

Pound of Beef, a Quarter of a Peck of Potatoes, and Two Pounds and a Quarter of Bread, but no Beer; is that the Case? *Mr. John Orridge.*

No, that is incorrect; they have Three Quarters of a Pound of Meat, and Half the Quantity of Potatoes he stated, but no Beer.

In One Ward, Number 2, there are Two Cells for solitary Confinement, where strict Silence is observed, and where the Prisoners when taking exercise walk in single Files, with an Interval of Two Yards between each?

I should observe Number 2 is a Place that was made for common Debtors; the Number having been decreased, we have now appropriated that Number, which contains Ten Cells, to the convicted Prisoners, because the Cells being large, it admits of being applied to silent Purposes of Separation, and when they walk they are walked in Indian Files, as he states, but keeping them at as great a Distance as the Numbers in the Yard will admit of. Supposing there are only Eight People in the Yard, they would be placed at equal Distances, but if there are Sixteen, they are placed so much closer together. But this Boy cannot have been in all these Places, and therefore he has taken it from Hearsay; and I dare say there was no Intention to misrepresent. I should observe that I find they do feel it to be very irksome to be a great deal apart, and when walking under Inspection to be compelled to keep Silence; and I think if the Law would authorize us, that would be a good Alteration to make with regard to those before Trial; it can produce no Pain or Detriment to Health, and prevents Contamination, and I find that the Division, Number 2, where Silence and Separation is enforced, is most dreaded.

Do you find that you have occasion to punish the Men in Number 2 less than others?

We have very seldom any Cause of Complaint there.

You have no Doubt that when Prisoners associate together in the Day-rooms they contaminate each other?

Remembering the old Boys Copy, that "Evil Communications corrupt good Manners," I can have no Doubt of it.

Is there any Suggestion that you wish to offer to the Committee?

I think generally our Gaols are very deficient; I have been called in many Counties to assist the Magistracy in making Plans, Rules, &c. The Magistrates of the County of Cumberland did me the Honour to build a Prison upon a Plan I suggested, and I think a good deal of Good has arisen there from providing a vast Number of solitary and refractory Cells apart from the rest of the Prison, where no Communication could possibly take place. My Son has been Governor there Ten Years, and the Plan he has adopted has been said to be very efficient, and his chief Instrument or Means of Correction is in having those Cells or Places so set apart; but then great Care must be taken with regard to the Size and Ventilation, for the Human Effluvia soon becomes very offensive unless it is well ventilated.

Have you seen a Plan of a Machine for solitary Cells, which is worked by a Winch, for the Purpose of ventilating the Cell?

No, I have not; I have seen them with an Indicator, which tells you how many Turns they have gone.

You have not seen a Proposal to have one of these Machines in every solitary Cell?

I have not.

Do you think the Proposal a good one?

Wherever Separation takes place, and Men are continued within a small Space a considerable Time, every thing must be encouraged to procure Ventilation, because I am sure that Health is very soon affected by it. To show the evil Effects arising from the Non-employment of the Poor, and from the bad System of Allowances of Money, for which they do nothing, and to show how it acts as a Sort of Premium for Crime, I can state the Case of a Man who was executed at the last Assizes for Arson, and his Account of himself was this: he set fire to some Stacks, which burnt out Twenty Individuals, and the Property consumed was worth about 2,000*l.*: he says, "I lived upon an Allowance of 2*s.* 6*d.* a Week;" he said that Idleness had brought him to his End, that, having nothing to do, he and many other young Men were led into

Mr. John Orridge.

the Fields to meet Idlers like himself, and then they were led to poaching and other bad Actions, and from thence to the Beer Shop, where they met other Blackguards like himself, but that no other Persons go there, and that those Persons, by Want of Work, were induced to harbour Revenge against a Farmer, "which Feeling," he said, "actuated us when we were induced to set fire to the Premises, thinking at the Time that we should never be found out, having arranged it so slyly." Upon the Scaffold his Exhortation to the Farmers was, for God's Sake, if possible, to provide Labour for the young Men. Then there is another bad System also which he lamented,—"If I got a Day's Work perhaps I was set by the Side of a young married Man, and though I could do as much Work again I was not paid the same Wages. Now," he said, "that made me lazy, because my only Capital was my Strength and Willingness to work, and it ought not to be taxed to maintain the married Man and his Family."

Have you fewer Commitments in the Harvest Time?

In the Harvest Time we have hardly any. I think that if more Restraint was put upon the Persons before Trial, and Authority given that they should not congregate in the Way they do, it would be very useful. I think there would be a great Difficulty in entire Separation, for when a Man is first committed on a Charge of a Capital Crime, the Anguish of Mind in many Instances is very acute for a considerable Time, and I have known Instances in which Suicide was only prevented by the Association; and it is astonishing how Anguish operates upon the Frame, it generally reduces the Weight of the Body.

Would a Person under that acute Anguish require more nutritious Food?

Yes.

Would you propose that the Surgeon should have the Power of ordering more nutritious Food?

Yes; even upon the Tread-mill the Labour does not act as it does Abroad; they are generally reduced in Weight.

Have you an Ergometer to show the Amount of Labour done?

No, we have not; we let the Force; a Miller hires it at Sixpence per Bushel, and therefore the Number of Steps will sometimes vary in a certain Degree, inasmuch as the Corn wants more Pressure sometimes than at others; our general Measure is about Forty-eight Steps a Minute, and that may be altered more or less; and the Miller is always desirous of getting the Work done.

Have you any Crank-machine?

No.

Do not you think that it is very good Labour?

I do not think it can be made productive Labour at all?

Do not you think it might be used to throw Water into Cisterns at the Top of the Prison, by way of cleansing the Privies?

I do not like the Crank System, except for single Labour; but our Tread-mill is applied to Seven different Powers, and that throws Water as well as grinds Wheat.

Did not the Prison at Bury, under your Superintendence, undergo considerable Alteration about Thirty Years ago?

It did; a new Prison was built under my Superintendence.

Did you employ the Prisoners in a great Degree in the Construction of the Building?

It was advertised for Contract by Weight and Measure, and the Person building it undertaking to employ as many Labourers that were Prisoners as I should let him have, paying the usual Wages that were paid to other People, and therefore every Saturday Night I received the Amount of their Labour.

How was that Money appropriated?

The Prisoners had a Portion of it, and the rest was carried to the Credit of the County; at that Time the Prisoners were allowed a Portion of their Earnings; that has now been superseded some Years upon a Suggestion of my own,

237

Mr. John Orridge.

own, and now, in lieu of that, the Visiting Magistrates, upon my Representation, can make such Allowances as they think proper upon their Discharge, in order that they should not go out destitute.

Among the Objects which you consider the most desirable in Prison Discipline, would you name Separation as one of the First?
Yes.

Would you name Silence as the Second?
I should say silent Order, but how far you would enforce it before Trial requires Consideration; but for convicted Prisoners silent Order should be an established and general Rule.

Would you rely a good deal upon Religious and Moral Instruction?
I think that important. It is astonishing with what Facility they learn to read and write, and what Attention they pay to the Schoolmaster. I hold it out to the Prisoners as a Benefit to be conferred upon themselves, and they were at liberty to use it, or not, as they thought proper.

You would recommend the Employment of the Prisoners, under certain Restrictions?
Yes; and I think that they should not congregate to make any Sort of Noise, that they should be under Superintendence during their Hours of Labour.

Would you rather recommend hard Labour than useful Employment?
We are an Agricultural County, and we should have great Difficulty in finding Employment within a small Space for Agricultural Labourers, and it was that that made me suggest the Idea of the Tread-mill.

Would not you think it desirable to prohibit Visits to convicted Prisoners altogether, except under extraordinary Circumstances?
That has been my Opinion, but certainly if they visit within the first Six Months I would have Three Months before they visit again.

Do you consider it most desirable that the Rules of the Prisons throughout the Kingdom should be uniform?
I do.

Do not you conceive that the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons would contribute very much to the Attainment of that Object?
Having been to different Counties, I have found the Regulations so various that I remember once addressing Mr. Buxton upon that Subject, saying that I thought that if there were Inspectors, with a practical Knowledge of the Management of Gaols, they would point out such Improvements as Magistrates might not think of, and thereby tend to the Discipline of the Gaols, accompanied with practical Economy. I gave that Opinion before I had been into Half the Counties that I have since been in, and the Opinion I then gave has been confirmed by my own practical Observation since.

Do not you think it desirable that Persons under Sentence of Transportation should be removed as quickly as possible from the Prisons?
I am of opinion that we should remove them directly, and whenever I have applied to the Secretary of State the next Day after Conviction, I have got an Order for the Purpose. I think it highly objectionable that a Man should be adjudged to a Term of Imprisonment, and then transported.

Have you had any Insane Persons confined in your Prison?
Yes; whenever we have had such they have been sent to the Lunatic Asylum, and now we have a County Asylum which must take all within the County.

Do not you think it very advisable for the Lunatics themselves as well as for the Discipline of the Gaols that they should not be kept in the Prisons?
I am satisfied that with a Man of that Sort you cannot maintain Discipline, because any Incoherence and Noise arising from a Man of that Sort would be a Pastime to the other Prisoners. Permit me to observe, that whilst Insane Persons remain in Gaols they are maintained at the Expense of the County. If sent to the Criminal Lunatic Asylum in St. George's Fields they are maintained at the Expense of Government; but if sent to the Asylums in the

Mr. John Orridge.

Country, the Expense is paid by the Parish to which the Lunatic belongs. This is considered by Parishes as a great Grievance, and frequently costs Parishes 14*s.* a Week, and this, I am inclined to think, is often the Cause of Lunatics remaining so long in Gaols, in order to relieve the Parishes of so great a Burden.

Have not you discontinued the Use of Fetters in your Gaol?

I formerly had 100 and odd Persons in one small Court; then it was the universal Practice throughout the Kingdom for every Man to be put in Irons. When the new Gaol was built I discontinued the Use of them: the other Gaolers said I should get knocked upon the Head, but from my Example they were discontinued, and now the Use of them is illegal.

Are you in the habit of using them as a Punishment upon any Occasion?

We do, as the Gaol Act directs, in case of their attempting to escape.

How would you deal with Offences within the Prison?

I would have what I have done at Carlisle, distinct refractory Cells, apart from all other Parts of the Prison; there I would have an Abridgment of the Diet, and a strict Confinement, more or less; but I think in any Act of the Legislature the Degree of Punishment should be laid down in some Way.

Do not you think that Prisoners in solitary Confinement should be frequently visited by the Surgeon?

As the Governor and the Chaplain will of course see him every Day, they would call in the Surgeon if they saw any thing approaching to the Mind or Body being affected.

What is your Opinion of Whipping?

With regard to Offenders, and more especially juvenile Offenders, I have always found that it is the greatest Dread they have. I never had a Complaint against a Man when that Punishment was awarded to him at the End of his Imprisonment. If a Man has been imprisoned for Six or Twelve Months, and to be whipped at the End of the Term, I never had an Instance of his being complained of during the Imprisonment. But I think the Number of Lashes should be defined, and the Instrument. But the very Idea of the Punishment operates upon the Minds of the Children and the Parents also.

Have you had any Persons acquitted on the Ground of Insanity who have proved not to be insane?

There was One Instance.

How did you get rid of that Individual?

By special Application and Statement of the Circumstances to the Secretary of State?

What became of that Individual?

He is now at large and in Business. He received His Majesty's Pardon. We have had several that I thought had not much Insanity, and I have laughed and said it was a pious Sort of Perjury on the Part of the Jury to acquit them on the Ground of Insanity.

Does that Practice increase?

I think it does not, as those Sort of Offences are seldom. With respect to Transportation, since it has gone out that there are certain Degrees of Convicts Abroad, there has been more Dread of the Idea of Transportation than there was. It has been published that Persons upon Transportation are divided into First, Second, and Third Degree, and since that has taken place there has been more Dread of the Punishment.

Do not you think that separate Confinement at Night must, in all Cases, be desirable?

Very desirable. Now, when we have beyond a certain Number, we must make use of larger Rooms, and put Five, Six, or Seven in a Room; then I leave all the external Doors open 'till about Ten o'Clock, and keep an Officer traversing round; but after that we lock up, and therefore Separation must always be desirable during the Night.

In

Mr. John Orridge.

In such Way that they cannot speak to each other?
No great Mischief or Contamination can arise during the Night if they sleep separately. To effect this Separation I know it would cause a great Expense; and when I have mentioned several Things, by way of Improvement, the Magistrates have said, "Remember the Pressure of the Times, and you must suggest nothing that is expensive."

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. W. Ritchie.

Mr. WILLIAM RITCHIE is called in, and examined as follows:

You are Governor of the Kingston House of Correction in Surrey?
I am.

It is a House of Correction alone, under the Jurisdiction of the Justices of the County of Surrey, appointed at the General Quarter Sessions?
It is.

It appears, by the Return that you made at the last Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, that the Number of Prisoners committed in the course of the Year was 301; and that the largest Number of Prisoners at One Time was 38; and it appears that you have but One separate sleeping Cell in the Prison; will you explain how you are enabled to class the Prisoners?
This One Cell is appropriated to the Purpose of punishing Prisoners for disorderly Conduct upon any Occasion. The Prisoners generally are lodged upon the Men's Side, in Four sleeping Cells; those Rooms will accommodate from Six to Eight Prisoners, and, if Necessity requires, more; they have each a separate Bed and Bedstead, but, upon Occasions when more Prisoners are within the Prison, we accommodate them by having their Beds put on the Floor. The Women are accommodated in the same Way.

You never put the Men and the Women in the same sleeping Cells?
No, separate; and a high Wall stands between the Buildings and Yards.

And never in the same Yards?
Never.

How many Yards have you?
Two; one for the Male, and the other for the Female.

If a Man is committed to take his Trial for Felony is he placed in the same Cell and in the same Yard as a Person committed for a Misdemeanor?
When a Prisoner is committed for Trial, after having been detained only in my Custody for the Purpose of Examination, he is removed as speedily as possible to the County Gaol, and then we have done with him.

Supposing a Man was committed To-day to your Prison upon a Charge of Felony, would he be placed in the same Cell as a Man that has been committed for a Misdemeanor?
Unless some specific Order upon the Warrant from the committing Magistrate directed to the contrary, he would, being committed only for Examination, after which, if committed for Trial, he is removed to the County Gaol, as stated above.

Where should you be able to place him if you received such an Order?
In the Room that I speak of.

But you could only put him there if there was not a Prisoner there for refractory Conduct?
It is very seldom that we have had Occasion for both at the same Time, and when so I would punish a refractory Offender for breaking the Rules by putting him in one of the Rooms upon the Women's Side, which is dark.

Where do you place a Deserter that is brought to you for safe Custody for one Night?
In the Yard with the other Prisoners, he belonging to the usual Class No. 1.

Suppose a Man was committed for abandoning his Wife and Family, would that Man be committed to your Custody?
No.

Mr. W. Ritchie.

Where do you put Male and Female Prisoners intended to be examined as Witnesses for the Crown?

We sleep them in whatever Room we may have unoccupied; and during the Day I generally bring them round to my private Yard, where I employ them, so as to prevent them from having Communication with other Prisoners. Should a Man and Woman be detained at the same Time, they would not be allowed to have intercourse, but Arrangements would be made to keep them separate.

In point of fact is the Classification required by the Gaol Act enforced in the Kingston House of Correction?

Yes, it is, in the Way I state.

Does not the Act of Parliament positively direct that Persons committed on a Charge of Felony shall not be placed with Persons charged with Misdemeanors?

I believe the Act does state that.

You have a separate Apartment called the Infirmary?

One Room.

What do you do if there is a Man sick and a Woman sick at the same Time?

I wish the Committee to understand I am but little experienced in the Business compared to others, as a Keeper, for I have only been in such Situation for the last Twelvemonth, and during that Period no Difficulty of that Kind has arisen, as in case of slight Sickness only the Surgeon does not order the Prisoners to be removed to the Infirmary, and are generally placed in one of the other Female Rooms, the Men usually claiming the Infirmary in Cases of Necessity.

You have not a separate Apartment for the Male Sick and for the Female Sick?

Not as an Infirmary.

Does not the Gaol Act require that such Means of Separation should be provided?

It does. These are the Rules and Regulations by which I am governed.

The Witness delivers in the same. (*Vide* Appendix.)

Is Silence enacted?

It is not.

Do you think it would be desirable, from what you have seen, to have Silence enacted?

I think it would be very desirable.

Do not you think, under the present System, many Persons go out of Prison worse than when committed?

I am sorry to believe that that is too frequently the Case.

Do the Visiting Justices ever attend and visit the Kingston House of Correction?

Once a Month; the first Saturday of the Month.

They are aware of the Defects of the Prison?

Quite so.

Can the Prison be enlarged?

It might be made a very excellent Gaol; we have a great deal of spare Room.

But hitherto the Justices have not thought proper to make Alterations?

No, they have not, I believe from an unfriendly Feeling which has existed against the Place, and the Fear of increasing the Expenses to the County. The Number of Prisoners, generally speaking, is very small, which is also another Reason for the Inconveniences being continued. I have here an Abstract of the Total Number for the Year, from Michaelmas to Michaelmas, and the Number of Rooms and Yards, and the Sizes of the same.

The

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows: *Mr. W. Ritchie.*

ANNUAL RETURN of the TOTAL NUMBER of PRISONERS COMMITTED to KINGSTON HOUSE OF CORRECTION, to Michaelmas in each Year.

Years ending at Michaelmas.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1829	294	30	324	House of Correction at Kingston contains as follows:—
1830	411	65	476	Four sleeping Cells for Men, 14 ft. by 17 ft., will accommodate from Six to Eight in each, or more if necessary, to sleep.
1831	239	63	302	Four sleeping Cells on Female Side, same Dimensions.
1833	233	36	269	Yard for Men's Use, 62 ft. by 51 ft.
1834	215	86	301	Yard for Women's Use, 51 ft. by 40 ft.
				Day or Mess Room, 16 ft. by 14 ft.; Work-room, 16 ft. by 14 ft.

Have you sufficient Room to hold the Prisoners before Trial?

We have such, only during the Assize. For the Number so lodged we have sufficient Room. We had the London Prisoners for the Lent Assize, (upwards of Fifty,) and the Plan we adopted was to take our own People up Stairs, and to give up the lower Rooms for those Prisoners, letting down our own People for an Hour early in the Morning, and then shutting them up again 'till the Evening, when an Hour was allowed them in the Yard after the others were locked up. The Prison is very badly contrived, and places us in various Difficulties at Times.

Have you any thing to suggest to the Committee?

If I were to express an Opinion, I think that solitary Confinement, or at least Separation, would be a very great Improvement.

Do you think Silence would be desirable?

It would be very desirable, provided it could be effectually enforced.

Are the Prisoners permitted to smoke?

They are. I have prohibited smoking in the sleeping Rooms, and as a Punishment occasionally, stop it in the Yard. The Prisoners sent to us are not sent for any hard Labour; what they do is voluntary; and these Indulgences have been granted in consideration of their good Behaviour as well as of their Industry. We employ them in various Ways, such as making Door Mats, making Vent Pegs, Skewers, and Mops (which we sell to the Brewers and others), and which entitles the Party to a small Amount on leaving the Prison, and that is a Saving to the County, inasmuch as a small Sum of Money is generally given to the Prisoner on his Discharge, and, if not earned, would come out of the Funds of the County.

Have you any thing more that you wish to state to the Committee?

I have nothing more to state, except that the Prison is very badly contrived.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. THOMAS BRUTTON is called in, and examined as follows: *Mr. T. Brutton.*

You are the Governor of Stafford Gaol and House of Correction?

I am.

How long have you been Governor?

Nearly Fifteen Years.

It is under the Jurisdiction of the High Sheriff and Magistrates of the County?

It is.

Are the Gaol and House of Correction united under the Act of Parliament?

They are.

Mr. T. Bruton.

You had 1,757 Persons committed to your Prison in the Year ending Michaelmas 1834; and 360 was the largest Number at One Time?
Yes.

Is Silence enacted in the Prison?
As much as possible.

Have your Tread-mills?
Eight altogether.

Any Crank-machines?
Not any.

Are there Compartments upon the Tread-mills?
No.

How do you prevent the Prisoners from talking on the Wheels?
By an Officer being stationed immediately opposite the Tread-wheels. He is continually with them.

Opposite to each Tread-mill?
Not each. The Officer is continually walking up and down in Front of the Wheels.

As the Officer walks up and down, would not his Back be turned to one of the Wheels, so that the Prisoners on that Wheel might speak without Discovery?
Yes, they might.

Do not you think it would be a good Plan to have Compartments upon the Wheels?
I do.

The Prisoners receive a Proportion of the Earnings, and the County receives the Remainder?
Yes.

Do not you think it would be a better System that the County should receive the whole?
I am scarcely prepared to give an Answer to that Question. The Prisoners do not receive any Share of their Earnings while they are in the Prison; they receive, not exceeding One Sixth, the Day they are discharged from Prison, and therefore it would come to the same thing, whether the County received the whole or not, because the County would pay the Prisoners a certain Sum of Money upon their Discharge to assist them to their Homes.

Has not it this Effect, that a Man who has been a Year in the Prison would receive a much larger Sum of Money when he went out than a Man who had been only Three Months in the Prison?
No Doubt he would.

Is there any Reason why a Man should receive more who has been suffering the greatest Punishment, because he has been the greatest Criminal?
No, I do not view it in that Light; it is because he has done more Work.

Do not you think it is a better Principle to enact that every Prisoner upon his Discharge from Gaol should receive a certain Sum of Money, at the Discretion of the Justices, to enable him to return Home, than to give him, upon his Discharge, the Earnings which he may have gained when undergoing his Sentence of Punishment?
I do.

Would not the clever Prisoner who can work at a Trade earn more Money than the Prisoner who had not been brought up to a Trade, but who might be a Man of far more Innocence and much less depraved than the former, though he would receive much less Earnings?
I view it exactly in that Light.

Do you permit Prisoners under Sentence to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?
Certainly not.

Are they permitted to smoke?
It is not permitted.

Are

Are those before Trial permitted to smoke?

No; I have prohibited it for about Two Years past; I consider it is a Luxury.

And you think that Persons undergoing Sentences should have no Luxury?

None whatever. I was the Cause of the Meat Allowance being taken off. When I was first appointed to the Prison at Stafford, the Butcher's Bills amounted to between Two and Three hundred a Year; the Prisoners had Meat Three Times a Week, and Soup; I considered that the Dietary was too good, and I suggested to the Magistrates that the Meat should be taken entirely away.

And you now give them Twelve Pounds and a Quarter of Bread, Seven Pounds of Potatoes, Twelve Ounces of Oatmeal, and Four Ounces of Salt a Week?

Yes; that is the only Dietary.

And the Surgeon is permitted to order an extra Diet if he thinks it necessary?

If a Prisoner is ill.

Do you think that Diet is sufficient to keep the Prisoners in Health?

Fully sufficient.

Have they been as healthy as they were before?

Equally so.

Did you ever weigh them upon coming in and going out?

Not at Stafford; I did when I was at Devizes, and, after Four Years Experience, I found the greatest Portion of the Prisoners at Devizes were heavier, with the same Dietary that the Stafford Prisoners now have, when they went out than when they came into Prison.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?

When they have been Half their Time and conducted themselves well.

Do you think it would be desirable to enact that, except under very special Circumstances, no Prisoner under Sentence for a Term of Imprisonment under Six Calendar Months should receive any Letter or Visits from his Friends?

I should recommend a strict Prohibition of any Communication during that Period.

Do you think it would be advantageous to the Discipline of the Prison?

I think so.

Do you think that the System of Silence is a good one?

Without Doubt.

Should you approve of keeping the Prisoners in separate Cells?

It is my Practice to keep them separate at Night, both before and after Trial, as far as is practicable.

Do you think that is attended with good Effect?

With good Effect, no Doubt.

Have you any Day-rooms?

In almost every Class.

Do you think that the Prisoners associating together in the Day-rooms is beneficial?

No.

Do not you think that they contaminate one another?

I have not the slightest Doubt of it.

Has not the Effect been too often that Prisoners leave the Prisons worse than when they were committed?

In some Cases I should imagine that they were worse, from associating together.

Does the Chaplain devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prison?

He has no other Duty to perform, except on Sundays at the County Lunatic Ayslum.

Mr. T. Bruton.

Do you know what his Salary is from the Gaol and House of Correction?
£230 a Year, and the County Asylum gives him 50*l.* a Year.

Does he pass many Hours in the Prison?
I cannot say that it is many Hours in the course of the Day; he is there every Day, but what Duties he performs I am not able to say. My Office Business takes up the whole of my Time, and therefore I cannot say what Duty he performs.

What Duties does he perform in the Prison on Sundays?
He reads Prayers and preaches a Sermon in the Morning, he then goes to the County Lunatic Asylum, and in the Afternoon he reads Prayers again in the Prison, without a Sermon.

Do you appoint Wardsmen or Monitors from among the Prisoners in Prison?
Yes, in every Class.

Do you appoint a tried Prisoner to be the Wardsman in an untried Class?
Certainly not; there is no Communication between the tried and untried.

Can you trust the Wardsmen to check any Irregularity?
I have in almost all Cases found them very correct in their Reports.

Do you select them from their good Character, or from their clever Habits?
From a Knowledge of their previous Character; perhaps it might have been their First Offence, and having respectable Connexions.

You look to that more than to their Fitness to control others?
I consider their Fitness as well, because, if I did not consider them fit, I should not appoint them.

Do you rather judge from their Ability than from their Moral Character?
Perhaps in most Cases I should, because they are all bad Characters; but I should not select a notorious Offender in any Case.

There was a Man sent from the Stafford Gaol upon the 31st of March 1834; he was Fourteen Days in Stafford Gaol before Trial, and Three Months after Trial, for stealing Wheat; he is now in the Penitentiary, and he states that he was placed with about Thirty more, all awaiting Trial; there was a Yard and a Day-room; by Night they were Three in a Cell; no Officer in the Yard, or any Attempt to keep any Order: is that correct?
That is not altogether correct. It is correct so far as regards the Officer not being continually in the Yard; that is accounted for by the few Officers I have. I have Twenty Classes in the Prison, and I have only Five Turnkeys.

He says "there were Two Yards in Stafford Prison for Prisoners for Trial at Sessions, and One for Trial at the Assizes:" is that true?
That is true.

"In one the best Characters were put, and the worst in the other."
That is not true; they are classed according to their Offences. The Prisoners for the Assizes are placed together, and the Prisoners for the Sessions are placed together.

He says he "was among the best, but still very wild Characters amongst them; there was a great deal of cursing and swearing, and talking about what they had done, and how they would go on again if they got clear; heard old Hands tell young ones of their great Feats, and how they might do the same; the ignorant ones were laughed at for not knowing how to go about it; and one who had been in Prison several Times, and always got quit, was boasting how he would defy the Law, and would do it."
That might have been the Case.

He says "Religion was never brought in question; went to Chapel for short Prayers twice a Week, and once on a Sunday:" is that correct?
Prayers in the Chapel twice a Week, Wednesday and Friday, and twice on a Sunday.

Do

Do you mean that there are not daily Prayers?
Daily Prayers are read every Morning in the Wards, and Prayers in the Chapel twice in the Week.

He says they "were allowed to purchase every thing they could afford before Trial, but not Beer or Tobacco."
That is correct.

"After Trial was placed with about Thirty other Transports; were all Two Months without any Work."
That is very probable.

Was that in consequence of your not having Wheels enough for the Employment of them?
I dare say that is the Reason.

How many Persons can be placed upon your Wheels?
There are Six Wheels for pumping Water, which will employ Ten upon each Wheel at One Time, and, with Relays of Five Prisoners to each Wheel, Ninety can be employed at those Wheels at One Time, and Thirty are employed upon the Corn Wheels, making a Total Number of 120.

Would not it be advisable that you should have an additional Machine erected; for instance, a Crank Machine?
I am not aware that it is at all necessary; there is scarcely a Man that is well who is not employed.

That Man states that he was not employed for Two Months?
He was under Sentence of Transportation I suppose. I have latterly put them to Labour, but formerly it was not done. I doubted how far I could put a Man to hard Labour that was under Sentence of Transportation; but within the last Assize or Two the Judges have been pleased to order that they should be kept at hard Labour for One Month, and then transported.

Do not you think it is most desirable that Transports should be removed as quickly as possible from the Gaols and Houses of Correction, and that a Power should be given to place them at hard Labour 'till they do leave the Prison?
Most undoubtedly I do.

Is it the usual Practice of the Judges now to sentence them to hard Labour previous to Transportation?
Not generally, I think; at the last Assizes not a single Prisoner was sentenced to hard Labour previous to Transportation. There is a Clause in the Prison Rules, that Persons waiting for Transportation should be treated the same as convicted Prisoners in the House of Correction; it was at first considered that it referred to the Dietary, but I thought it might be applied to putting them to Work.

Do the Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation receive any more Allowance than the others?
An Assize Convict receives the Government Allowance of Half a Crown a Week.

If a Man is sentenced to Transportation at the Assizes he receives from the Government the Allowance of Half a Crown a Week, till he leaves the Gaol, but if a Man is transported by the Justices at Quarter Sessions he receives no such Allowance?
None whatever; but he has the full Prison Allowance.

But the Man that receives the Government Allowance receives more than the other?
Certainly.

Therefore a Man would prefer being transported by a Judge to being transported by the Magistrates at the Quarter Sessions?
Undoubtedly he would.

Have you in your Custody a Man that has been acquitted upon the Ground of Insanity?
I have; Jonathan Mottram, for the Murder of his Wife; he was found to be insane by an Inquest taken in Court.

Mr. T. Brutton.

Was he so found to be insane upon his Arraignment?
Upon his Arraignment, not being able to plead.

What will become of the Man?
I presume he will be sent to the Lunatic Asylum; I have made a Return of him to Government, and I expect His Majesty's Order to remove him to the Lunatic Ayslum.

Do not you think it would be much better for the Lunatics themselves that they should be sent to Lunatic Asylums, and also much better for the Discipline of the Gaol?
Much better.

Do you believe that since the Prison Rules in Stafford have been more strict that the Prisoners have not come back as frequently as before?
I think the Returns have been nearly equal. The Returns have been very numerous of old Offenders.

What Part of the Discipline is it that annoys them the most?
Solitary Confinement. I was always an Advocate for this Description of Punishment.

Do you practise that more severely towards the Conclusion of the Imprisonment?
Generally more.

Have you observed that they have lately had any greater Dread of Transportation?
I have not heard that they have.

Are they aware that the System of Discipline in New South Wales is much more severe than it was formerly?
I have not a Doubt that many who have returned for Trial the Second Time are aware of that, because upon their First Trial they have been informed by the Judges of the severe Discipline that has been established in New South Wales; but Prisoners that have not been in Custody before, I doubt whether they are aware of the present Manner of treating the Transports Abroad.

You were understood to say that the Prisoners are separated at Night, but that they are allowed to associate in the Day-rooms?
Not the convicted Prisoners; but on the Tread-wheels there is no Separation.

Supposing that Compartments were made upon the Tread-mill, how many Officers would it require to enforce Silence upon your Eight Tread-mills?
I should think Two Officers would be enough where there are Six Wheels together in the new Part of the Prison, and Two in the old Part, where One Officer would be sufficient.

What Kind of Manufactures are the Prisoners employed in that are not sentenced to hard Labour?
The Manufactory has been done away with within the last Two Years; we used to manufacture every thing in the Prison for the Prisoners Use, and now we do not manufacture any thing. We have Pin-heading for the Birmingham Manufactories.

In this Kind of Manufacture do you find a still greater Difficulty in enforcing Silence than upon the Wheel?
I should not find any Difficulty if I could get Officers placed where the Men are.

Do you carry on this Manufacture in Numbers or in separate Cells?
In Numbers.

And still you think it would be possible for a sufficient Number of Officers to enforce Silence?
Most certainly I do.

If the Officers were Fellow Prisoners?
No, I would not go so far as to say that.

Could

Could you possibly find Officers enough, if they were not Fellow Prisoners?
It would depend upon the Magistrates of the County.

How many Classes are there?
Twenty or Twenty-one.

You stated that you have only Five Turnkeys, and that the Turnkeys or the Wardsmen were employed to read Prayers to the Prisoners every Morning; then there are Sixteen Classes in which the Prayers are read by the Wardsmen?
Yes.

Have you Reason to think that that Part of the Wardsmen's Duty is performed?
I have not a Doubt of it, because the Turnkeys are moving about from one Part to another during the Time, praying and reading; and if there was any Impropriety of Conduct they would hear it.

Are you of opinion that that is a better Way of having the Service performed than by assembling the Prisoners in the Chapel?
Certainly not; I should prefer having them in the Chapel.

And that then the Prayers should be read either by the Chaplain or the Governor, as the Gaol Act directs?
Yes.

Do you conceive it to be consistent with the Gaol Act that Prayers should be read in that Way by the Wardsmen?
I should certainly prefer their being read in the Chapel by some one properly appointed; but I do not think it is contrary to the Gaol Act.

Do the Turnkeys live in the Prison?
Every Turnkey is in the Prison at Night, but there is only Accommodation in the Daytime for One Turnkey; they are married Men, and their Families reside without the Walls of the Prison, but they give Attendance the whole of the Day from Six in the Morning 'till Ten at Night.

Do they board in the Prison?
No, out of Prison; they go to their Meals alternately.

Do you find much Difficulty in enforcing Silence at Night?
No, because the Prisoners are certain of being punished if they are detected, and the Turnkeys are continually moving about.

How many are employed in that Way as Watchmen?
There is only One employed as a Watchman or Guard during the Night, but I am speaking of the Time before we retire to Rest.

And the whole Five are so employed 'till you go to Rest?
Yes.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned 'till To-morrow, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Jovis, 7° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Mr. JOHN GRANT, Keeper of the Northampton Gaol and House of Correction, is called in, and further examined as follows:

Have you any Observations to make upon the Evidence you gave the Day before Yesterday?

When I was before your Lordships Committee, I was asked whether the Female Debtors could see the Male Debtors, and I answered no, which is true; but wishing to be correct, I beg to state that, although that is strictly true, I should add that the Female Debtors being confined over the Chapel can see into several of the Wards where Male Prisoners for Felony and Misdemeanors are confined, and through the Window might hold Conversation with them, and might also write and send out Letters, without my Knowledge. I beg also to state that sometime ago a Male and Female, Brother and Sister, were brought into my Custody for Debt, and the Sister being nearly an Idiot, I thought it best to let her be confined in the Male Debtors Ward with her Brother, in order to her being better taken care of, and having another Female Debtor confined over the Chapel, I thought it more prudent to place that Female Debtor with the other Female Debtor.

Do not you think that it would be very advisable that the Female Debtors confined over the Chapel should not be enabled to see the Male Felons, as you have described?

I do.

Do you remember a Man of the Name of ——— ——— being confined in Northampton Gaol, who was removed, on the 31st of May 1834, to the Penitentiary?

Yes.

He says, that "he was never in Prison before, but that he was committed to Northampton Prison, and was placed in No. 4 Yard, with Seventeen or Eighteen Prisoners all awaiting Trial; at Night they slept Three in a Cell, most of them very indifferent Characters, some of them had been previously convicted; Conduct and Conversation very bad indeed, there was much swearing and lying, very indecent Talk; many were telling what they had done, and the ignorant might have been instructed in every kind of Crime." Do you believe that this Statement is true?

A great Part of it.

He says, "there was much low gaming, though not allowed?"

I am not aware of it.

"Religion was made a Ridicule of; no Officer present in the Yard?"

There never was; I stated that a Monitor was appointed and nothing more.

He says, "the Officers seldom visited it, and then not to keep any Order, but to suppress any Uproar?"

That is true.

"In the Day-room there was a constant Noise; there were many mock Trials, but more for Sport and Ridicule than for any thing else." Do you think

Mr. John Grant.

that from the System of Day-rooms this may all take place without your being able to prevent it?
I am sure it may.

He says "Prisoners are allowed to provide themselves both before and after Trial;" is that true?
It was at one Time, but that is done away with.

He says that there was no Work after Trial, those were Transports?
Yes; they were not sentenced to Labour with us.

Do not you think, even for the short Time they are with you after Sentence, it would be desirable that they should be placed to hard Labour?
I think it would.

He says that Money was allowed them both before and after Trial; did they receive it from their Friends?
Yes, from their Friends; that was only the Convicts.

Are you of opinion that under the present System many Persons quit the Prisons much worse than when committed?
I am certain that they must do so.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Sir F. A. Roe.

Sir FREDERICK ADAIR ROE is called in, and examined as follows:

You were examined last Year before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on County Rates?
Yes.

The following Extract is read from the Evidence of Sir Frederick Adair Roe before the Select Committee on County Rates on the 14th of May 1834:—

"Is the Number of juvenile Offenders very much increased in London and the Neighbourhood of late Years?—Recently not very much, but I should say certainly of late Years.

"Are a large Proportion of the Offences committed against the Person or Property of Individuals committed by young Persons?—A great Proportion, particularly those against the Person.

"Do you think they are employed by older Offenders?—I have no Means of knowing that positively; but I think the Facility they have of disposing of Property stolen is a great Inducement to them to commit Offences.

"It is understood there are, in point of fact, a great Number of Boys strolling about the Streets of London without any possible Means of gaining their Livelihood by Industry?—There are a great Number who are in the habit of living in that Way in the Streets; but I am of opinion that a great Proportion are unwilling to make any Effort to gain their Livelihood by Industry, or to work if offered.

"Have you any Means of forming a Calculation as to the Number?—No.

"Do they confederate together in Gangs and make a Division of their Booty?—I apprehend not in large Gangs. I should think from Three or Four to a Dozen may coalesce together, speaking generally.

"Does a large Proportion of the Persons committed for Trial consist of young Offenders?—Not of Boys absolutely, but Boys and young Men.

"A large Proportion does consist of them?—I should say so.

"Do you think there would be any Advantage in the Establishment of some Tribunal which should either be constantly sitting, or should sit with very short Intervals of Interruption for the speedy Trial of young Offenders?—I am decidedly of opinion a Tribunal of that Description would be advantageous. It has been the Practice within the last Eighteen Months to have frequent Adjournments of the Sessions of the County of Middlesex; and the contemplated Measure now pending in Parliament for the Establishment of a Court to sit Twelve Times in the Year would, I think, be sufficient to meet the Necessity of the Case.

"You

Sir F. A. Roe.

" You would not think it necessary to establish any Jurisdiction of a nove Nature for the Trial of Offences in the Metropolis 'till that Course had been fairly tried?—As to the Jurisdiction of a Court, I should not think it necessary.

" In consequence probably of what you state, the numerous Sessions at the Old Bailey, there being now Eight, and in contemplation Twelve?—Exactly so. There have been Twelve Sessions at Clerkenwell since the Commencement of the Year 1833.

" So that on an Average the Imprisonment of a Person before Trial will barely exceed a Fortnight?—The Average will be decidedly less; the longest Imprisonment will not exceed Three Weeks.

" There these Offences will be tried by a Jury?—All of them.

" With the ordinary Powers?—Yes, without any Alteration of the Law on that Subject.

" Can you form any Opinion of how many Charges for Felony and trifling Offences, or with Intent to commit those Felonies, you have in the course of a Year?—I have Returns at the Office, and could furnish the Committee, or put into my Evidence, if it was wished, a Statement of all Charges of Felony at Bow Street, whether ending in Committal or Discharge.

" What do you do with those brought before you charged with Intent to commit Felony?—If the Evidence is sufficient to satisfy the Mind of the Magistrate that the Person charged comes within the Scope of the Vagrant Act, we commit him under the Powers of that Act.

" For what Punishment?—Punishment varying according to the Offence. There is no Minimum. Three Months is the longest Period to which a Rogue and Vagabond can be sentenced; but they are liable on Second Conviction to be committed as incorrigible Rogues; that, however, is rarely practised, from the Want of the immediate Production of a former Conviction.

" Those brought before you with Intent to commit Felony you commit under the Vagrant Act, and according to the Provisions of that Act; but those who have a primâ facie Case of Felony sufficiently proved against them you commit for Trial?—Where the Evidence bears out a complete Case of Felony the Practice is to commit them for Trial.

" Do you think those who are charged with petty Offences, where the Offence is complete, might with Satisfaction be disposed of by the Magistrates in the same Way as those Offences brought before you, which are only Intent to commit Felony?—I have no Doubt they might, with great Safety. I should say that it is much more easy for the Magistrate to form a satisfactory Judgment where an Offence has been positively committed, than where there is only a Suspicion of the Intent of the Criminal to commit the Act; there would be much less Doubt on his Mind.

" You are only speaking of petty Offences?—Of petty Offences.

" Does the County pay the Expenses of these summary Convictions?—No Expense attends them.

" What is the Expense of a Conviction under the Vagrant Act for a petty Offence, with Intent to commit a Theft?—There is none.

" What is the Expense of a Prosecution for these petty Offences at Clerkenwell?—The Expense of a Criminal Prosecution in the County of Middlesex for a Felony depends, of course, on the Number of Witnesses, and the Length of Time they are detained; the Witnesses are allowed 3*s.* 6*d.* a Day each for every Day's Attendance, in addition to which they are allowed travelling Money at the Rate of 3*d.* a Mile, if they come beyond Five Miles, 1*s.* 6*d.* a Night if from a Distance, and the Expenses of preferring the Bill of Indictment; and they are entitled to, and frequently do apply for, Expenses for Attendance before the Magistrate, which in the Case of a Felony he can allow, but in the Case of summary Jurisdiction he cannot.

" Then all the Expense you have just described would be saved to the County by a summary Conviction before a Magistrate, and at the same Time equal Justice would be done to the Prisoner by that Proceeding?—The whole Expense would be saved, and my firm Belief is that Justice would be done.

" That is your Opinion from Experience?—From Experience.

" In the summary Conviction you describe, the Prisoner, unless he is convicted, or has a Case made against him of a probable Conviction, is not imprisoned at all?—He is not.

Sir F. A. Roe.

" Do you conceive the Imprisonment of a Prisoner, against whom there is a probable Case, or a Boy, who is afterwards acquitted, there being no Case proved, is disadvantageous to his Morals and future Conduct in Life?—I should certainly say that all Imprisonment deteriorates; there is a Stain cast upon the Boy by that Imprisonment; but I am decidedly of opinion that very few People commit a Crime without being pretty much deteriorated as to their Morals and Honesty before they commit it.

" Still you must think it does deteriorate them? — It adds to it, no Doubt.

" And when a Person has not committed a Crime, it must have that Effect? —Certainly, if he is innocent.

" If that is so, do you think Crimes are increased by that Imprisonment, inasmuch as it deteriorates?—I think undoubtedly it tends to produce that Effect. A Boy who has been imprisoned comes out, whether acquitted or not, with a Stain on his Character, and is more likely to be driven to continue his Course of Crime than if he had never been placed in that Situation.

" Have you the same Prisoners often brought before you?—Very often.

" Are they ever brought twice in the same Day?—I do not recollect that, but the subsequent Day, and at very short Periods; after being discharged one Day I have known a Boy brought up the next for another Offence.

" After being released from Prison?—Constantly after being released from Prison. I have no Doubt their Discharge from Imprisonment without any Resources tends to produce that Effect.

" Do you conceive it would be necessary, supposing any Alteration were made, and that a more summary Power were given to Magistrates for trying small Felonies, to give the Magistrates the Power to allow certain Expenses to Witnesses called before them?—That would apply more to the Country than to the Metropolis; I should say in London it would not; I think that the Speediness, not undue Speediness, with which the Matter would be disposed of would trespass so little on the Time of the Generality of Prosecutors and Witnesses that they would be extremely willing and anxious to have that Mode adopted without any Remuneration to them. But when extended to the Country, where such a Jurisdiction would only be exercised at the Petty Sessions, and where Prosecutors and Witnesses may have to come from a Distance of many Miles, there they would naturally be more anxious to have their Expenses, and consequently more desirous to go to the Quarter Sessions. But on the whole I should not think it necessary to give a Power to the Magistrates to allow any thing for Time and Trouble.

" The Delay also would be longer if there was a regularly constituted Tribunal; you could not ensure a Person's Case being heard the Moment he appeared?—No."

Do you entertain the same Opinion now as you did last Year?

I entertain the same Opinion that I did then.

Do you think that giving Magistrates a summary Power in case of juvenile Offenders would tend to repress Crime?

I do, for these Reasons:—In summary Proceedings the Saving of Time of the Prosecutor and Witnesses, which is unavoidably lost in Attendance at the Quarter Sessions or Superior Court, would be an Inducement to Persons to prosecute more readily; the Speediness of the Proceeding would prevent the Witnesses being tampered with; and the following up Detection with immediate Punishment would create a greater Dread of being apprehended.

Do you think it would be expedient to give a Power to One or Two Police Magistrates to attend upon a given Day, say twice a Week, in London, at some particular Court, before whom all juvenile Offenders might be brought, the Magistrates to empannel a Jury of not less than Three and not more than Five?

I think the Rapidity with which the Punishment would follow the Offence under such Circumstances would be desirable.

You would restrict that Tribunal to the Trial of juvenile Offenders and minor Offences?

Certainly, to minor Offences; but I am not so certain that I would restrict it altogether to juvenile Offenders, because I think the Line would be better drawn by the Nature of the Offence than by the Age of the Person.

Supposing such a Tribunal were formed, should you think that Cases of Felony and Embezzlement under 5*s*., and trifling Riots, might be included?

As the Offender would always be sent before such a Tribunal after a primary Examination by one of the Police Magistrates, or in the City of London before an Alderman, I should say that it would be better to leave it to the Discretion of the Magistrate to decide whether it is a Case to be so sent, rather than be governed by the Amount of Value in respect of which the Prisoner is charged.

Has the Central Court Act been found to be beneficial?

Upon the whole, decidedly, it works well.

There are now Twelve Gaol Deliveries in the Year instead of Eight, as there were formerly?

Yes.

If this Tribunal was established, might it not meet once or twice every Week?

Certainly.

Would not that very much decrease the Number of Persons for Trial in the different Gaols and Houses of Correction in London?

It would probably decrease the Number of Persons for Trial at the Quarter and General Sessions, who are sent there for minor Offences; it would not affect the Criminal Court so much; a considerable Proportion of those Offenders who are now punished summarily under the Vagrant Act would probably be disposed of under such a Tribunal.

Do not you think it a great Object that Boys should be kept in Prison the shortest Time possible before Trial?

Decidedly.

Do they learn before Trial a great deal of Mischief under the present System of Prison Discipline?

They do, and it is attended with great Mischief.

Should you prefer Power being given to Two or Three Magistrates summarily to convict juvenile Offenders on minor Offences without the Inconvenience of calling upon the Tradesmen to attend as Jurymen?

As the Police Magistrates always sit in public in such Cases, and there is no Concealment of their Proceedings, I think it would be perfectly safe that they should be heard before Two Magistrates at the respective Offices, and I should suggest that that Course would be preferable.

And the Effect of that Course would be much more immediate?

Certainly.

By the Law, as it now stands, is it not considered that Magistrates are prohibited from taking Bail in the Cases of Persons charged with Felony, unless they have a reasonable Doubt of the Person's Guilt?

Yes, that is the Interpretation of the present Statute.

In your Opinion would it be expedient to enact that Justices shall in all minor Cases of Felony be enabled to take Bail?

My Opinion would be unfavourable to that.

When a Man felt a Consciousness that he might be sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years for an Offence for which Bail was taken to the Amount of 40*l*. in himself, and Two Sureties in 20*l*. each, have you any Doubt that in many Cases the Defendant would not appear, but leave his Bail to pay the Amount of the Security?

I should say, that in all Cases, if Bail was imperatively to be taken, a Risk would be run of the Person, who had the Means of getting it, forfeiting his Recognizances and letting his Sureties be responsible rather than incur the Risk of being tried.

Then, in fact, would it not work the grossest Injustice, because it would be the Means of liberating a Person who had the Command of Money, and insuring the Trial only of the poor Man?

Certainly.

Sir F. A. Roe.

Do not you find that in many Cases where Bail is now authorized to be taken, such as Cases of Assaults of an atrocious Description, that many Persons forfeit their Bail?

It happens frequently.

There is no Rule as to the Amount of Bail which a Magistrate is to take?

It is entirely at his Discretion; if, however, he required excessive Bail, the Party in Custody might move for a Habeas Corpus, and go before a Judge.

Supposing a Magistrate in the Country calls upon a Man to find Bail for an indecent Assault, in Two Sureties of 50*l.* each, and himself in 50*l.*, if the Defendant removes his Trial by Certiorari, are not the Judges always in the habit, if they grant that Removal, of only calling upon the Person to find Bail in 20*l.* himself and Two Sureties in 20*l.* each?

That is the Law at present: at the same time, if the Person on whose Complaint the Individual is charged chooses to appear by Counsel or Attorney before the Judge at the Time of granting the Writ of Certiorari, the Judges may order higher Bail, but this is only when the Case is followed up, which in Ninety-nine Cases out of a Hundred, in Cases of indecent Assault, is never done.

Therefore, although a Magistrate has thought fit to call for Bail to the Amount of 50*l.* each, yet as a Matter of course, if no Application is made on the Part of the Prosecutor, the Judge only requires the Defendant to find Bail to the Amount of 20*l.* and Two Sureties in 20*l.* each?

That is the Effect of it.

Would not Cases, in which 500*l.* or 1,000*l.* Bail had been required by the Magistrates, be treated just in the same Way?

Yes.

Are you of opinion that the System of Silence is desirable in Prisons?

I think the Enforcement of it is of the greatest Benefit.

Do you think it would be desirable to have one uniform System of Discipline in all the Prisons in this Country?

Most desirable.

Do you think that the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons, to report to the Secretary of State, would very much tend to maintain a proper and a uniform System of Prison Discipline?

I have always been of that Opinion, but my Opinion would go further; I should give them Power of acting in addition to the Duty of reporting.

From what Class of Persons would you select the Inspectors?

They must be of a high Class of Persons; the Selection of an efficient Person to perform a most important Duty, in which Discretion, Judgment, and Knowledge of Law are required, would be a difficult Thing, and, no Doubt, great Consideration would be necessary in selecting a proper Man; I should say that they should be Men of the same Class as the Factory Commissioners.

Would they, in your Opinion, possess sufficient Knowledge of Prison Discipline to discover the Defects of the Prisons they might be called upon to visit?

Gentlemen of that Class of Society, well selected, would, I think.

Is not there a Clause in the Central Court Act, which passed in the last Session, authorizing His Majesty, by an Order in Council, to declare in what Prisons the Persons within the Central Court District shall be confined?

There is.

Has any Order in Council been made in pursuance of that Act?

None.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

255

Captain BENJAMIN CHAPMAN is called in, and examined as follows:

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

You are the Governor of the Penitentiary at Milbank?
I am.

You gave Evidence, on the 25th of March 1831, before a Committee of the House of Commons, on Secondary Punishments?
I did.

Have you had any Reason to change the Opinion that you then expressed?
Not at all; on the contrary, my Opinion has been strengthened by the Two subsequent Years Experience as to the Necessity of Seclusion and Separation.

The Chaplain of the Penitentiary has expressed to the Committee a strong Opinion that the existing Practice of discharging Prisoners after a certain Number of Years Confinement in the Penitentiary, on the Ground of good Behaviour when in Confinement, is not a good System; do you agree with him in Opinion?
I do not.

Will you state the Reasons why you do not agree with him in Opinion?
Having considered that Question, I have put upon Paper my Views upon the Subject, and, with the Permission of your Lordships, I will read it. The Penitentiary may be considered a probationary State for Persons to be again restored to their Friends and to Society, and according to their Conduct and Moral Improvement is that Restoration accelerated or retarded; the Minimum of Confinement, however, for the best conducted Prisoner, being Three Years, before they are recommended for Pardon by the Superintending Committee of the Institution. It has always appeared to me to be a most wise Provision of the 52d of George 3, Cap. 44, which empowers the Committee to recommend "Offenders who shall manifest extraordinary Diligence or Merit" for the Royal Mercy. It has been observed, the holding out to Prisoners that exemplary Conduct may shorten their Confinement opens the Door for Hypocrisy; perhaps in some Instances it may be so, but the general Result of such a Regulation I am satisfied has been productive of much Good. The most consummate Hypocrite that ever existed, if he can be brought to control his violent Temper and vicious Propensities for Three Years, and strictly conform to the Rules and Regulations of the Institution, there will be something gained; but when Habits of Regularity, Cleanliness, and Industry (I leave higher and better Motives out of the Question) are inculcated and rigidly enforced for that Period by better Subjects, the Advantages are obvious and striking. We are in a great Degree the Creatures of Habit, and it is, I think, a reasonable Inference, that the invariable Practice of Three Years will have an abiding Influence. I have also in my Possession here another Document. Some Time ago the Secretary of State sent Mr. Crawford's very able Report to the Committee, with a Request that they would read it over and make such Observations upon it as occurred to the Superintending Committee of our Establishment. They have done so; and a very valuable Document it is, and I have brought it with me.

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

"Sir, "General Penitentiary, 13th April 1835.

"The Superintending Committee of this Establishment, having read with great Attention Mr. Crawford's Report on the Penitentiaries of the United States, desire to assure Mr. Secretary Goulburn that they have maturely considered that important Document referred to them by his Direction, and especially that Part of it which is more particularly pointed out in your Letter of the 4th of February; and, having desired the Observations of the Governor and Chaplain, have received from each of those Officers many useful and valuable Suggestions, of which they have duly availed themselves in the Remarks they have now the Honour to submit to the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

"The System of complete Seclusion and close Confinement established in the Eastern Penitentiary at Philadelphia, as described by Mr. Crawford, is no

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

Doubt attended by very important Advantages, which he has ably pointed out (Page 12). It may, however, be productive of Disadvantages, especially in its Effects on the mental and physical Health of the Prisoners, which the short Period during which the Eastern Penitentiary has been in operation has not given sufficient Time to ascertain. The small Number of Prisoners confined in it, increasing only from 31 in the Year 1830 to 123 in 1833, would also render it difficult to judge of the Effects to be expected from any System of Management there adopted, if applied to the much greater Number imprisoned at Millbank.

"The Committee, however, deem it the less necessary to enter into a detailed Inquiry into the probable Effects of so strict a Mode of Incarceration as is in Practice at the Eastern Penitentiary, where the Prisoners never leave their Cells neither by Day nor Night, as the Construction of the Millbank Penitentiary is not adapted to it, nor capable, except at an enormous Expense, if at all, of being fitted for it.

"But besides this Difficulty, (which in the Case of the Millbank Penitentiary may be considered as almost amounting to Impracticability,) the Committee are of opinion that it is a still more conclusive Objection to the System of the Eastern Penitentiary, that it precludes the Means of Religious Instruction. Of the paramount Importance and salutary Effects of such Instruction the Committee cannot better express their Opinion than by citing the Words of Mr. Crawford.

"'As personal Reformation, to be permanent, must be founded upon 'Christian Principles, so no System of Prison Discipline can be effectual in 'which Religious Instruction does not form a prominent Part. On the Im-'portance of this Subject it is impossible too earnestly to dwell. The Vice 'and Depravity to be found in every Gaol have led to an Impression, by far too 'general, that most Criminals are beyond the Reach of Reformation. What-'ever may be the Fact, I feel assured that the Trial has in few Prisons been 'fairly made. There can be no Limits to the sacred Influence of Religious 'Impressions upon the Hearts of even the most guilty; and I cannot doubt 'that, by the Employment of Measures adequate to the Occasion, Minds, how-'ever hardened, may be raised from Degradation, and reclaimed by the Power 'of the Gospel. When the Number of Prisoners is considerable, the whole 'Time and undivided Attention of a Chaplain should be devoted to his Duties. 'Whatever Necessity prevails in the World at large for Moral Education and 'Religious Instruction is immeasurably increased in a Prison by the Character 'and Habits of its Inmates, and by the Disadvantages under which that In-'struction can ordinarily be conveyed. The Situation of a young Criminal on 'his first Entrance into a Gaol might be rendered eminently favourable to 'good Impressions; nor can any Human Being, however hardened, be so 'debased by Guilt as to justify the Withdrawal of the Means which are neces-'sary to his Moral Restoration.'

"In the Millbank Penitentiary this has been carried to a great Degree of Perfection by the unremitting Zeal and Assiduity of the Rev. Whitworth Russell, the present Chaplain, assisted by the Schoolmaster; for, by successively assembling the Prisoners in Classes for Religious Instruction, every Person is enabled to receive it for no less than Six Hours in each Week, exclusive of the weekly Sunday Services in the Chapel, and of occasional individual Instruction; but if the Prisoners were confined in separate Cells, which they were never suffered to quit, it would require the Services of Seventy-five Chaplains to administer the same Amount of Instruction individually in their Cells to 600 Prisoners, supposing such Chaplains to be able to devote Eight Hours a Day to this Duty only. A System of such strict Seclusion would also destroy a Branch of the Penitentiary Regulations, only inferior in Importance to that of Religious Instruction; namely, the Education afforded by the Schools. A considerable Number of the younger Prisoners, and even of the Adults, are totally illiterate at the Time of their Commitment; they are regularly assembled in Classes in the Schools Two Evenings in the Week, and the greater Part of them leave the Prison with a Portion of Education equal to that of most Persons in a similar Situation of Society, in respect of the ordinary Branches of Learning, and certainly superior to many in respect of the Religious and Moral Tendency of the Instruction they receive. It is true, that the assembling of the Prisoners in Classes for both these Purposes in some Degree relieves the Irksome-

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Captain Benjamin Chapman.

ness of constant Seclusion, and so far may be considered as a Mitigation of Punishment; but, as it is scarcely possible that any Intercourse of an objectionable Nature can take place among the Prisoners assembled under the Eyes of the Chaplain and of other Officers of the Prison, who are constantly present, the Committee are far from thinking that this Indulgence (if it can be so considered) is an important Objection to a Practice indispensable to the adequate Inculcation of Religious Truth and Moral Instruction. They are, however, so impressed with the beneficial Effects of the greatest Degree of Seclusion compatible with Health, that it has been for Three Years past the constant Object of the Regulations they have introduced to enforce it to a greater Degree than formerly. They have Reason to believe that this System has been productive of considerable Benefit; and they have considered this increased Severity of Imprisonment as justifying them in recommending for His Majesty's gracious Pardon such Prisoners as had conducted themselves with Propriety, at an earlier Period than they had before fixed as the Minimum of Confinement.

"Closely connected with the Subject of solitary Confinement is that of Prison Manufactures. In America, it appears, from Mr. Crawford's Report (Page 24), that 'The profitable Labour of the Prisoners is in fact the 'popular Feature in the Management of the American Penitentiaries;' and he 'is 'inclined to think that the great Desire which exists to rid the Community 'of the Burden of supporting Criminals has occasioned in most of the States 'the Establishment of Penitentiaries, while throughout the whole Country this 'Feeling has evidently given a great Impulse to the Progress of Prison Discipline. There are, unquestionably, in every State those whose Interests in 'such Institutions spring from far higher Motives; but, with the Exception of 'New England and Pensylvania,' he has 'generally found that the public 'Approbation, in reference to Prisons, has been measured, not by their permanent Effects on the Moral Character of the liberated Convict, but by the 'Profits of the Establishment. The productive Employment of Prisoners is 'certainly an Object of considerable Importance, and every Exertion should 'be made for its Accomplishment, consistent with the great Moral Purposes 'of a Gaol;' he is, 'however of opinion, that to obtain this Result too large 'a Sacrifice is made in some of the Penitentiaries of the United States. Various 'Trades are introduced, and beneficial Arrangements neglected, solely with a 'view to Profit; the Objects of Punishment have been thus lost sight of; 'the Gloom of the Penitentiary has been dispelled, and the Attention of the 'Convict distracted, by the continued Bustle and varied Occupations of the 'Manufactory. It is one Thing to render a Convict a skilful Mechanic, and 'another to induce him to become an honest Man; and the Interests of 'Society are injured, instead of being benefited, when, for the sake of Profit, 'the Penalties of the Law are weakened, and the Moral Effects of Imprisonment suppressed.

"'In forming a Comparison between the productive Employment of Prisoners 'in the Houses of Correction in England and the Penitentiaries of the United 'States, it ought always to be borne in Mind that the Difference in the Circumstances of the Two Countries is so great as to render it impossible that 'Criminal Institutions of the same Nature should produce similar Results. 'This Difference arises, first, from the dense Population of England compared 'with that of America, and the Demand for Labour which prevails in the 'several States; and, secondly, the long Periods for which Prisoners are 'sentenced to the American Penitentiaries, the Punishment of Transportation 'being unknown. In England the short Duration of Imprisonment materially 'increases the Difficulty which otherwise exists of making Convicts skilful 'Workmen, and of rendering Prison Labour profitable. In appreciating also 'the relative Effects of Punishment it should further be remembered, that in 'the United States there are not the same powerful Temptations to Crime as 'in England; an American has in this respect a great Advantage over an 'English Convict on his Liberation; hence a Recommitment in the one 'Country implies a deeper Shade of Criminality than in the other. Besides, 'the Facilities for travelling enable the discharged Convict to effect a 'favourable Settlement without much Danger of his previous Habits becoming 'known. No Man need commit Crime in the United States from the Want of 'Employment.'

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

"The Experience of the Committee of the Millbank Penitentiary leads them to concur in the above judicious Remarks of Mr. Crawford. After several Attempts at the Introduction of various Modes of Employment, they have been obliged in the End almost entirely to confine the Prisoners to that of a Tailor; an Occupation too sedentary to be conducive to Health, and not productive of considerable Profit, since the Labour of 443 Prisoners only afforded in the last Year from that Species of Employment a clear Gain to the Establishment of 1,460*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, the average Earnings of each Person so employed amounting only to about 4*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.*

"The Committee would not willingly recommend the relinquishing even of this moderate Deduction from the heavy Expenses of the Prison, though they cannot be insensible that it is obtained at a considerable Risk to the Moral Benefits of the Institution. The Intercourse unavoidably allowed between Convicts recently admitted and those who, either from having been brought up to the Trade or from Practice in the Penitentiary, have acquired the Skill necessary to qualify them to act as Instructors, is represented by the Chaplain as in many Instances leading to the most injurious Consequences. The Committee are not however aware of any other profitable Mode of Employment from which similar Evils might not be apprehended, and they are not, therefore, prepared at present to recommend the Substitution of any other Manufacture. Employment at the Engine which supplies the Building with Water, as now practised, seems to them well adapted to the Purpose of healthy Exercise; and they do not consider themselves as warranted by Law to introduce Labour merely penal, such as that of the Tread-wheel, which could not in their Opinion be applied to any valuable Purpose in the Building at Millbank.

"The Tenth Suggestion of Mr. Crawford (Page 40) appears to require some Remark. The Committee concur with him in the general Principle, that 'the Rigour of Imprisonment should be equal, certain, and unremitted;' but they apprehend that if, as he recommends, no Intercourse by Letter were to be permitted between the Prisoner and his Friends at large, the Chance of his being able to obtain an honest Livelihood on his Discharge would be greatly lessened, and in many Cases wholly precluded. If his Friends were not informed as to the State of the Prisoner's Mind they would not feel warranted in receiving or finding Employment on his Discharge. Such Correspondence is, as it indeed ought to be, placed under very strict Control, and the greatest Vigilance used to prevent Abuse; but it has in the Millbank Penitentiary been attended with the great Advantage, that a large Proportion of the Prisoners discharged are immediately admitted into respectable Situations.

"A similar Observation will apply to his Recommendation, that 'no Portion 'of the Earnings of the Prisoner should be allowed him.' Independently of the Incitement to Industry, which, notwithstanding the Weight of the Consideration stated by Mr. Crawford, the Committee cannot but think of considerable Value, the greater Part of the Prisoners would on their Discharge be turned out utterly destitute, if this Resource were denied them, or pecuniary Assistance must be given them to an Extent which would add materially to the Expense of the Establishment. Even under the present System it is frequently necessary to add to the Earnings of a Prisoner, to enable him to return to his Friends, or obtain temporary Support.

"Mr. Crawford's Twelfth Suggestion (same Page) relates to the important Subject of Pardons. The Committee fully admit the Force of all his Objections to the Practice of any Remission of the Sentence of the Law, when exercised irregularly, or on Grounds not fully understood, or which may by possibility be open to the Suspicion of Favour or Interest. On this Subject they took the Liberty of submitting their Sentiments to the Secretary of State on the 13th of April 1831, in a Letter from which they beg leave to introduce an Extract:—

"'The Committee feel it to be their Duty, as well to themselves as to the 'Persons under their Care, respectfully to represent to your Lordship, that 'they have always been precluded from recommending Prisoners for Pardon '(unless in very extraordinary Cases) 'till One Half of the Term of their 'Imprisonment shall have expired. It has invariably been held out to the 'Prisoners, as a Means of inculcating Subordination and preserving Discipline, 'that to their own good Conduct while in Confinement, and to the consequent

'Intercession

259

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

'Intercession of the Committee, they can alone look for the Remission of any 'Part of their Sentence, and not to the Interest of their Friends or to any 'other Channel of Application; and the more deeply this has been impressed 'on their Minds, the more successful have been the Attempts of the Autho-'rities to produce their Reformation, and to preserve good Order and regular 'Conduct among them.'

"The same Objections do not, however, appear to the Committee to apply to a System of Remission of a Part of the Sentence after a fixed Period of Imprisonment, to all such Prisoners as have strictly complied with the Rules of the Establishment. This may indeed be considered as a virtual Abridgment of the Term of the Sentence, but it cannot lead to the Excitement of uncertain Hopes and Fears. Every Prisoner knows that he has it in his Power to shorten his Term of Confinement by good Conduct, and that it cannot be done in any other Manner. There can be no Doubt that a powerful Motive is thus afforded to Regularity and Propriety of Behaviour, and the Committee believe that it has greatly contributed to the good Order of the Prison; and though it may be said that real Reformation does not always accompany external Decency of Conduct, as appears from numerous Instances in the Chaplain's Journal, it cannot be denied that a rigid Compliance with the minute and multiplied Regulations of the Penitentiary must imply a very considerable Degree of that Self-control which is indispensable to Moral Improvement.

"The 14th Suggestion of Mr. Crawford also involves most important Considerations. One of the greatest Difficulties with which the Committee have had to contend in the Management of the Penitentiary has been the Choice of subordinate Officers. They are sensible that on the correct Habits and sound Principles of these Persons who are necessarily much in Communication with the Prisoners, and whose Conversation and Manners must have a great Influence over them, not only the good Order of the Prison but the Reformation of its Inmates must mainly depend. They have been careful to select such Persons as, from the Recommendations they received, they had Reason to believe best qualified for such a Trust; but their Choice has been restricted by the very limited Remuneration they are able to offer, and which seems hardly adequate to the Expectations of such a Class as Mr. Crawford appears to point out. This has led in a Majority of Instances to the Appointment of retired Non-commissioned Officers of the Army, who, in addition to their Salaries, are in the Enjoyment of small Pensions for their Services. This Class of Men seems, in many respects, well calculated for the Situation of subordinate Officers of a Prison, who ought to be Men of known Intrepidity, Vigilance, and Decision, and inured to the Habit both of Obedience and Command; but to insure, in addition to these Qualifications, such a Degree of Sobriety and Regularity of Conduct as is necessary for the good Order of the Establishment, the Committee have found it necessary, both with this Class of Persons and with respect to such Officers as have been taken from Civil Occupations, to use, not only great Care in the Selection, but great Strictness of Discipline afterwards, and to visit with Severity even very slight Deviations from Correctness of Conduct.

"I am, Sir,
"Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) "ROBERT AULD, Secretary."

"S. M. Phillipps Esq.
&c. &c. &c."

I have brought with me also a Statement relative to the Per-centage. I have taken one entire Book containing 268 Prisoners, which I have accounted for as to their Reception, the Time of their Discharge, the Amount of the Per-centages, and, where they have happened to amount to either more or less than the general Average, I divided them into Two Parts upon the re-opening of the Prison in 1824, and I took the highest that had been received before then, and I find that One Man received the enormous Sum of 30*l.* 15*s.* 4½*d.*; that was in 1819, he being taken in as what is called a Clicker, which is the cutting up and distributing the Leathers.

Have the goodness to deliver in that Paper?

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

RETURN of PRISONERS received into the GENERAL PENITENTIARY, commencing with Register Number 743 to 1,011, specifying the Date of their Discharge, and the Amount of their several Per-centages.

Regr No^{s}.	When received.	When discharged.	Amount of Per-centage. £	s.	d.	Observations.
743	20th November 1828	21st February 1832	2	17	9½	
744	——	1st June —	2	3	4½	
745	——	——	2	11	6½	
746	——	——	4	16	8½	Inspector of Tailors Work.
747	22d November —	9th March —	1	6	4¼	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
748	1st December —	25th June —	2	6	9	
749	——	——	2	12	11½	
750	——	——	2	16	6	
751	——	5th March 1831	1	1	4½	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
752	2d December —	26th June 1832	2	7	9¾	
753	——	——	2	4	8¾	
754	——	30th June —	2	9	9½	
755	——	11th July 1831	0	15	10½	Tried at the Old Bailey for stealing Money and Clothes from an Officer, and was transported for Life.
756	——	30th June 1832	2	8	9¼	
757	3d December —	——	2	6	5	
758	11th December —	——	5	9	3½	Was a Baker, and placed early in the Bakehouse.
759	12th December —	23d June —	2	6	3	
760	13th February 1829	13th July —	2	6	3¼	
761	——	——	1	5	10	
762	——	Died		—		Died 10th April 1830.
763	23d February —	20th August —	1	19	9¾	
764	2d March —	30th June —	4	12	11¾	Was a good Tailor, and placed in the cutting Cell.
765	6th March —	25th May 1833	0	0	11¾	Per-centage stopped for wilful Damage.
766	——	8th March 1832	1	11	8	
767	——	13th July —	2	19	9¼	
768	——	16th September 1833	5	13	3¼	Was a Shoemaker.
769	25th March —	14th March 1831	1	0	1½	Not recommended by the Committee.
770	——	12th October 1832	2	15	0¼	
771	14th April —	8th October 1830	0	7	5	Not recommended by the Committee.
772	29th April —	13th July 1832	2	15	1	
773	8th May —	30th March 1833	2	12	2¼	
774	18th May —	27th February —	2	18	9	
775	20th May —	13th July 1832	2	2	0¼	
776	——	10th December —	1	19	1	
777	——	Died		—		Died.
778	27th May —	13th July —	2	10	9½	
779	——	31st July —	2	3	11½	
780	29th May —	13th July —	3	17	2¾	Tailors Instructor.
781	——	——	2	10	8	
782	——	Died				
783	16th June —	28th July —	1	7	5¼	
784	——	12th October —	2	4	6¼	
785	——	13th July —	2	14	7¼	
786	——	20th August —	1	14	0¼	
787	——	——	2	10	11¼	
788	——	13th July —	1	18	11¼	
789	——	——	0	18	3½	
790	——	——	1	16	6¼	
791	22d June —	20th August —	2	14	9¾	
792	——	13th July —	1	7	3½	
793	——	20th August —	3	7	9¾	Was in the Kitchen.

261

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

Reg^{r} No^{s}.	When received.	When discharged.	Amount of Per-centage.	Observations.
			£ s. d.	
794	27th July 1829	20th August 1832	2 5 11	
795	——	——	1 18 6½	
796	31st July —	21st September —	1 9 1	
797	——	12th October —	1 18 4	
798	1st August —	20th August —	2 4 3¼	
799	——	31st August 1833	2 12 4¾	
800	2d August —	23d February —	3 4 1½	
801	——	22d August 1832	1 1 3½	
802	——	20th August —	1 19 11	
803	4th August —	——	2 18 1¼	
804	10th August —	12th October —	2 8 9¾	
805	17th August —	4th September —	2 4 9	
806	——	——	4 7 4	An excellent Tailor.
807	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
808	19th August —	4th September —	2 5 0½	
809	22d August —	——	2 2 7	
810	——	——	3 4 5¾	Cutter.
811	——	——	1 17 3½	
812	——	——	2 17 5½	Warper.
813	——	——	2 9 3	
814	——	——	1 10 3¼	
815	24th August —	——	2 7 0½	
816	——	——	1 3 6¾	
817	——	13th July —	1 16 5	
818	19th September —	23d November —	2 18 0¼	Tailors Instructor.
819	19th November —	——	2 9 2¼	
820	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
821	31st January 1830	2d February 1833	2 12 4½	
822	——	23d February —	2 16 4½	Baker.
823	——	2d February —	2 0 7¾	
824	10th February —	19th April 1831	0 10 6½	Removed to the Hulks; incorrigible.
825	13th February —	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
826	16th February —	23d February 1833	3 1 9	Tailors Inspector.
827	——	——	3 1 5½	Do. Instructor.
828	——	——	2 8 3½	
829	——	——	2 7 0¼	
830	20th February —	27th February —	2 19 6½	Kitchen.
831	3d March —	23d February —	2 7 7¾	
832	5th March —	27th February —	2 0 4¼	
833	11th March —	22d February 1834	1 3 11¼	
834	22d March —	30th March —	2 8 10	
835	6th April —	21st March 1832	0 13 7¼	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
836	9th April —	24th October 1833	3 13 7½	Kitchen.
837	——	26th April —	2 19 5¾	
838	——	Died		Died in the Penitentiary.
839	——	20th August 1832	2 14 8	Shoemaker.
840	13th April —	26th April 1833	3 9 5	Callenderer.
841	——	——	3 2 6½	Tailors Instructor.
842	——	——	2 16 4½	
843	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
844	28th April —	16th April 1832	0 19 4½	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
845	——	21st September —	1 2 8¾	
846	29th April —	10th May 1833	2 1 6¾	
847	——	14th May 1832	0 17 10	Transferred to the Hulks for Scrofula.
848	1st May —	10th May 1833	2 19 7¼	Tailors Instructor.
849	3d May —	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
850	10th May —	23d May 1834	4 10 8½	Tailors Instructor; Life Case.
851	13th May —	23d November 1833	2 14 9¾	14 Years.
852	——	5th March 1832	0 15 9	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
853	14th May —	11th May 1833	2 17 2¼	

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

Regr Nos.	When received.	When discharged.	Amount of Per-centage. £	s.	d.	Observations.
854	14th May 1830	16th March 1833	1	13	8	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
855	18th May —	18th September 1830	0	6	6	Not recommended by the Committee.
856	——	25th May 1833	3	4	0	Kitchen.
857	——	——	3	1	11	Do.
858	18th May —	25th May —	2	5	7	
859	——	——	2	19	5¼	Do.
860	——	13th July —	1	8	8¼	
861	19th May —	8th June —	1	19	5	
862	——	23d November —	3	4	0	Cutter-out.
863	——	27th November —	2	16	9½	
864	2d June —	8th June —	1	11	3	
865	8th June —	14th June —	2	2	4¼	
866	10th June —	Died		—		Died in the Penitentiary.
867	——	14th June —	2	13	0	
868	——	Died		—		Died in the Penitentiary.
869	——	14th June —	3	19	9¼	Shoemaker.
870	18th June —	21st June —	1	17	8¼	
871	——	19th January —	3	9	11	Tower Wardsman.
872	19th July —	Died		—		Died in the Penitentiary.
873	——	27th July —	3	4	11½	Kitchen.
874	9th August —	Died		—		Died in the Penitentiary.
875	——	22d February 1834	4	0	4	Baker; 14 Years Case.
876	11th August —	Died		—		Died in the Penitentiary.
877	19th August —	8th August 1833	2	15	7½	
878	——	5th September 1832	1	1	9½	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
879	24th August —	31st August 1833	3	19	6¾	Tailors Instructor.
880	——	——	3	7	5¼	Kitchen.
881	——	2d February —	6	14	6¾	Head Shoemaker.
882	1st September —	24th April —	1	11	7½	
883	11th September —	3d October —	1	6	9	
884	7th October —	24th October —	2	15	7¾	
885	8th October —	——	2	5	7½	
886	27th October —	23d November —	2	6	9½	
887	——	6th May 1834	4	14	1¼	Tailors Instructor; 14 Years Case.
888	——	23d November 1833	4	2	5½	Kitchen.
889	——	6th May 1834	3	9	4	Tower Wardsman; 14 Years Case.
890	——	——	3	16	5¾	Do. Do. Do.
891	——	23d November 1833	2	4	1½	
892	——	6th May 1834	3	5	9¾	Kitchen; 14 Years Case.
893	——	2d February 1833	1	9	9	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
894	——	23d November —	3	9	0	Kitchen.
895	——	6th May 1834	3	18	5	Do.; 14 Years.
896	——	23d November 1833	2	13	1	
897	——	——	2	12	4½	
898	8th November —	23d November —		—		Ill-behaved; still in the Penitentiary.
899	11th November —	——	2	12	2½	
900	29th November —	31st May 1834	3	6	7	Kitchen; 14 Years Case.
901	3d December —	17th December 1833	2	5	9	
902	13th December —	24th December —	4	17	2	Baker.
903	——	——	2	2	4½	
904	15th December —	——	2	5	4½	
905	16th December —	——	2	12	7¾	
906	——	——	2	4	4¼	
907	——	——	3	5	0¼	Tower Wardsman.
908	——	——	1	16	0	
909	23d December —	11th July 1834	3	13	1½	Kitchen; 14 Years Case.
910	18th January 1831	31st January —	2	10	7	
911	20th January —	——	2	4	3¾	
912	——	——	3	4	10	Wardsman.
913	——	24th April 1833	0	17	6¾	Medical Grounds.

263

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

Regr No.	When received.	When discharged.	Amount of Per-centage. £ s. d.	Observations.
914	26th January 1831	16th January 1835	3 0 9¾	
915	——	31st January 1834	2 9 1¼	
916	29th January —	——	1 2 2¾	
917	7th February —	13th August —	4 9 3¾	Baker; 14 Years.
918	——	10th August —	3 8 7½	Kitchen; Do.
919	——	——	3 10 10	Do. Do.
920	15th February —	22d February —	2 11 2½	
921	21st February —	——	2 7 6	
922	——	29th March —	1 7 3½	
923	——	22d February —	3 16 0	Cutter-out.
924	——	——	—	In the Penitentiary.
925	3d March —	27th February 1833	2 0 4	Not recommended by the Committee.
926	12th March —	——	—	In the Penitentiary.
927	——	4th September 1832	0 11 11¼	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
928	——	21st March 1834	2 14 7	
929	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
930	——	21st March —	2 3 2¼	
931	——	——	1 11 5½	
932	16th March —	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
933	21st March —	1st September 1832	0 11 1½	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
934	——	21st March 1834	1 18 1	
935	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
936	26th March —	29th March —	1 12 10	
937	——	13th August —	1 7 0½	
938	29th March —	29th March —	1 17 1½	
939	——	19th April —	3 10 1½	A good Tailor.
940	——	——	2 5 5½	
941	7th April —	——	3 13 4	Cutter.
942	——	——	3 13 11	Do.
943	——	——	3 1 11	Do.
944	——	——	2 7 7¼	
945	11th April —	17th October —	4 3 9¾	Tailor's Instructor; 14 Years Case.
946	——	13th July 1832	0 8 0	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
947	12th April —	19th April 1834	2 9 9¾	
948	15th April —	7th January 1835	1 6 1½	
949	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
950	16th April —	19th April 1834	2 10 3¾	
951	——	——	2 9 5½	
952	——	——	2 6 2¾	
953	——	12th May 1832	0 3 6¼	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
954	——	31st May 1834	2 3 1	
955	19th April —	3d January 1833	0 16 2	Removed to the Hulks; incorrigible.
956	20th April —	6th May 1834	2 8 8½	
957	21st April —	6th January 1835	2 10 10	
958	28th April —	6th May 1834	2 2 9¾	
959	——	30th October —	3 9 3	Kitchen.
960	——	6th January 1835	3 1 10½	Do.
961	——	——	2 8 7½	
962	——	30th October 1834	3 4 8¾	Wardsman.
963	2d May —	23d May —	2 11 11¾	
964	——	14th March 1833	0 14 11	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
965	——	23d May 1834	2 5 5	
966	——	24th May 1833	0 11 3½	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
967	3d May —	——	—	In the Penitentiary.
968	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
969	——	23d May 1834	0 16 0½	
970	4th May —	——	2 8 3	
971	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

Regr No.	When received.	When discharged.	Amount of Per-centage.	Observations.
			£ s. d.	
972	6th May 1831	24th May 1834	1 4 10¼	
973	——	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
974	——	24th May —	2 1 4	
975	——	——	1 17 0	
976	——	22d February —	1 2 0	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
977	——	23d May —	1 18 3	
978	7th May —	13th August —	3 15 6	Baker.
979	——	23d May —	2 13 7¼	
980	9th May —	24th May —	1 15 9¼	
981	27th May —	10th May 1833	0 6 1	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
982	——	——	—	In the Penitentiary.
983	1st June —	Died	—	Died in the Penitentiary.
984	——	1st May 1834	2 7 7	
985	6th June —	12th June —	1 7 0	
986	——	——	—	In the Penitentiary.
987	——	14th June —	4 5 10	Baker.
988	——	18th December —	2 9 6	
989	——	14th June —	2 9 0	
990	——	——	0 18 3	
991	——	20th December —	2 7 6	
992	9th June —	14th June —	2 11 3½	
993	22d June —	11th July —	1 11 2½	
994	6th July —	10th January 1833	1 4 9	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
995	——	11th July 1834	1 8 7½	
996	29th July —	13th August —	1 19 6	
997	1st August —	——	—	
998	12th August —	——	—	In the Penitentiary.
999	——	30th July 1832	—	Transferred to the Hulks; incorrigible.
1000	——	21st August 1834	2 14 11	
1001	——	——	—	Removed to Bethlehem Hospital.
1002	——	29th September 1832	0 8 2½	Not recommended by the Committee.
1003	18th August —	21st August 1834	1 19 2½	
1004	19th August —	19th January 1833	0 6 10	Discharged on Medical Grounds.
1005	——	21st August 1834	1 9 9	
1006	2d September —	——	—	Still in the Penitentiary.
1007	——	——	—	Do. do.
1008	19th September —	——	—	Transferred to the Hulks; incorrigible.
1009	3d October —	6th May —	1 2 10	
1010	19th October —	——	—	Still in the Penitentiary.
1011	——	2d September —	0 8 8	Discharged on Medical Grounds.

REGISTER NUMBERS of PRISONERS receiving the greatest Sums for Per-centage since the Re-opening of the Prison, August 1824.

Regr No.	When received.	When discharged.	Amount of Per-centage.	Observations.
			£ s. d.	
22	19th August 1824	24th April 1827	14 14 8½	Cabinet Maker and Carpenter.
53	21st September —	24th August 1829	12 11 1	Ditto.
56	23d September —	2d November 1827	17 5 8	Shoemaker.
81	12th November —	4th June 1830	13 11 1	Good Tailor.
336	2d May 1826	14th July —	16 13 8	Shoemaker.
440	2d December —	25th June —	15 4 0	Ditto.
706	30th September 1828	16th April 1832	13 7 7	Ditto.

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

PRISONERS who have received the greatest Sums for Per-centage, from the first Opening of the Penitentiary in 1816 to the End of the Year 1823.

——— ——— a Glass Bead Blower; received 16th July 1817; discharged 14th August 1820; Amount of Per-centage, 19*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*

——— ——— a good Shoemaker; his Term expired; received 19th February 1818; discharged 27th January 1823; Amount of Per-centage, 19*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

——— ——— Head Shoemaker; received 6th August 1819; discharged 24th September 1823; Amount of Per-centage, 16*l.* 3*s.* 5½*d.*

——— ——— Clicker and Head Shoemaker; received 13th November 1819; discharged 24th September 1822; Amount of Per-centage, 30*l.* 15*s.* 4½*d.*

B. CHAPMAN, Governor.

I have also a Copy of the Governor's Report of the Prisoners for this Day, which I beg to deliver in.

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

GOVERNOR'S REPORT of PRISONERS.—General Penitentiary, 7th May 1835.

	MALES.								Total Males.	FEMALES.				Total Females.
	Pentagon No. 1.		Pentagon No. 2.		Pentagon No. 5.		Pentagon No. 6.			Pentagon No. 3.		Pentagon No. 4.		
	1st Class.	2d Class.	1st Class.	2d Class.	1st Class	2d Class.	1st Class.	2d Class.		1st Class.	2d Class.	1st Class.	2d Class.	
Employed - - -	84	79	84	70	39	41	39	46	482	25	36	1	24	86
Unemployed - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Confined under Punishment - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Confined solitary on first coming in -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infirmary - - -	2	4	4	1	—	4	1	1	17	7	2	—	5	14
	87	83	88	71	39	45	40	47	500	33	38	1	29	101

Total Males - - - - - 500
—— Females - - - - - - 101

Grand Total - 601

R. CHAPMAN, Governor.

About the Year 1832 there was a Sub-Committee of our Superintending Committee, for inquiring into the actual State of the Penitentiary, and under the Head of Warders they expressed some Opinions very different from my own, and I was requested to give such Observations as occurred to me; and upon that Point I have here the Observations of the Sub-Committee, with my Answer.

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

EXTRACT of a REPORT from the SUB-COMMITTEE to the SUPERINTENDING COMMITTEE of the GENERAL PENITENTIARY, dated the 13th January 1832.

"AS TO THE WARDERS,

"Your Committee, adverting to the Circumstance of so large a Portion of the Warders having been taken from the Military Class, and also to the Fact of very frequent Dismissals of them having been found necessary, have inquired whether any Part of the alleged Irregularities is attributable to the previous Habits of Life of these Officers. The Discipline of the Army certainly gives a Degree of Promptitude, Regularity, and Self-possession, highly useful in an Establishment of this Nature; but on the other Hand, a Non-commissioned Officer (who has usually risen from the Ranks) is apt to acquire a Tone and Mode of addressing Inferiors highly irritating to the Feelings of Prisoners, and, consequently, subversive of Discipline, or, at least, adverse to Improvement.

"Your Committee, although of opinion that there is much Weight in the Objections to the Employment of Military Officers in the subordinate Situations

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

of Authority, yet do not consider the Evil so urgent as to demand any immediate Measure to be taken on the Subject. They merely take this Opportunity of impressing upon all who are engaged in the Task of selecting Officers for the Establishment the Duty of looking, not merely to outward Habits of Sobriety, Industry, and Integrity, but of endeavouring to obtain, if it be possible, a Class of Persons actuated by higher Motives than a mere Regard for Worldly Character, or the Desire of standing high in the Estimation of their immediate superior Officers."

Extract of Observations made by the Governor on the foregoing Report.

"Relative to the Remarks of the Committee under the Head 'Warders,' I beg to premise my Observations by an Extract of a Letter from the Committee to the Right Hon. Robert Peel, dated the 21st of May 1825; viz.

"'The Committee are decidedly of opinion that the List of Military Officers 'on Half Pay is the best Quarter to which they can look for a Governor.'

"The Opinion of the Committee as to the Eligibility of such a Person could only have Reference to his professional Habits. The same Eligibility and Fitness for the carrying the Discipline of the Prison into effect peculiarly applies to the Class of Persons most eligible for the Situations of Taskmasters, Assistants, and Warders. I would have them (if I could) from amongst the higher Grades of Non-commissioned Officers recently discharged from their respective Regiments with Pensions, and of course unexceptionable Characters. Their Pensions, in addition to their Salaries, enable them to support their Families with Respectability, which places them more out of the Reach of being bribed by Prisoners Relatives or Friends. Their previous professional Habits (in my Opinion, and that Opinion is strengthened and confirmed by the practical Experience of Nine Years) give them a Facility in acquiring a Knowledge of their Duty, and carrying into effect that Part of their Rules so properly laid down and required; viz.

'He shall enforce his Orders with Firmness, but shall be expected to 'act with the utmost Humanity towards all the Prisoners under his Care; 'on the other Hand, he shall not be familiar with any of the Prisoners, or 'converse with them unnecessarily, but shall treat them as Persons under 'his Authority and Control, and not as Companions or Associates.'

"My Conclusions are directly at variance with the Opinion expressed in the Report. Non-commissioned Officers invariably rise from the Ranks, but they never reach the higher Grades but through a long Continuance of the most exemplary Conduct, and the strictest Attention to their Duty; neither are they ever permitted to use a reprehensible or irritating Mode of addressing the Soldier under them; they are likewise prohibited from too much Familiarity or Intercourse, beyond what is necessary in the Execution of their Duty; and I do believe them to be as humane and kind-hearted as any other Description of Persons.

"I am willing to enter into the Case of every Officer who has been obliged to leave this Establishment since I have been Governor, and I do affirm that, with very few Exceptions, all the most serious Offences have been committed by Persons not Military."

I have also another Paper which will show the State at this Moment. The first is a Letter from Mr. Phillipps to me, requesting that I would give the Secretary of State, then Mr. Goulburn, Information how far the Recommendations in the Report of the House of Commons Committee on Secondary Punishments was carried into effect in the General Penitentiary, and here is a Copy of the Answer I made.

Have the goodness to deliver that in?

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

"Whitehall, 29th January 1835.

"Mr. Phillipps presents his Compliments to the Governor of the General Penitentiary, and is directed by Mr. Secretary Goulburn to request that he will inform him, whether, since the Report of the Select Committee on Secondary Punishments, any Alteration has been made in the Regulations of the Penitentiary, with reference to the Recommendation of the Committee, that 'more 'effectual Means should be adopted to prevent Conversation between Prisoners

Captain Benjamin Chapman.

'while in their Cells; as, unless Measures are taken to prevent all Communi-
'cation, the Object of the Institution will not be obtained.

"'The Indulgence hitherto allowed to Prisoners, of receiving Letters from
'their Friends, should in future be withheld altogether; and, during the
'whole Period of their Confinement, all Communication from without, except
'in special Cases, should be strictly prohibited.'"

"Sir, "General Penitentiary, 30th January 1835.

"I have the Honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of Yesterday, and beg to state, that before the Report of the Select Committee on Secondary Punishments was printed, viz. on the 22d June 1832, the congregating of the Prisoners of the 2d Class in working Cells was done away with, and that every Prisoner, both Male and Female, has since had a Cell by himself or herself; that Silence is strictly enforced, not only in their Wards but at all Times; that in taking Exercise in the Airing-yards, the Prisoners walk in a Circle in single Files with an Interval of a Yard between each, an Officer being always in the Centre, nor are they allowed (under immediate Punishment) to open their Lips to each other. Since the Report has been printed, the working Cells in Pentagon No. 3, occupied by Female Prisoners, have been subdivided into solitary Cells, and in Pentagons 1 and 2, occupied by Male Prisoners, a similar Arrangement has taken place, so that every possible Precaution has been 'adopted to prevent Conversation between Prisoners while in their Cells.'

"With respect to Prisoners receiving Letters from their Friends, or occasionally seeing them, the Rule now observed is, that Prisoners whilst in the 1st Class (that is, in the first Period of their Confinement) are only allowed to see or write to their Friends once in Six Months, and when advanced to the 2d Class that Indulgence is granted once in Three Months; Letters are allowed to be received once a Month, and then in strict Accordance with the Marginal Reference on each Sheet of Paper granted to Prisoners, one of which is herewith sent.

"By the 56th of Geo. 3, Cap. 33, Sec. 24, (which is still in force,) it is enacted, that 'the Confinement of the Convicts in the 2d Class shall be more 'moderate.' Now the only Difference whatever in the Treatment and Confinement of the Two Classes is the slight Indulgence of writing to or seeing their Friends once in Three Months, by Convicts in the 2d Class.

"It has always been considered that in this Institution Reformation should go Hand in Hand with Punishment; that one of its principal Objects was to return the Culprit to Society an improved Character; that a Reception into that Society by some respectable Person should, if possible, be procured; that the Child should not totally be severed from the Parent, nor the Wife from the Husband, which probably would be the Case if this connecting Link were broken.

"When the Strictness of the Discipline is considered, and the Minimum of Confinement for the very best conducted Prisoners is Three Years, if 'all 'Communication from without except in especial Cases should be strictly 'enforced,' the mental Punishment in the Penitentiary would indeed be painfully increased, but the Chance of the Culprit being ever employed would be very materially lessened.

"I beg to observe that the Superintending Committee, in conformity to the Act of Parliament, have invariably submitted their Bye Laws, Rules, and Regulations, whenever altered, to the Justices of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench; nor have ever such Rules or Regulations so altered been acted on until confirmed by the Justices.

"The Committee in their Report annually laid before Parliament have always adverted to any Alteration that might have taken place. Their Reports, laid before Parliament in 1833 and 1834, are herewith transmitted; in the former they go much into Detail on the Necessity of the Alterations made, and o the beneficial Result of such Alterations.

"I have the Honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) "Benjamin Chapman, Governor."

"To S. M. Phillipps, Esq.
&c. &c. &c."

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. James Sheriff.

Mr JAMES SHERIFF is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Keeper of the Aylesbury Prison?
I am.

It is a Gaol and House of Correction for the County of Buckingham situate at Aylesbury?
Yes.

How long have you been the Governor?
Twenty-two Years, but I have had the Management of the Prison for upwards of Thirty; in fact, I was born in the Prison.

Are all the Provisions of the Gaol Act carried into execution in that Prison?
Not to the full Extent.

Will you state in what Instance they are not carried into effect?
With respect to the Female Prisoners, we have not the Means of Classification required by the Act of Parliament.

Are you obliged to place the tried and untried Females together?
Yes.

And the Cases of Felony with the Misdemeanors?
Yes.

If a Woman is committed to your Custody for an Assault, are you obliged to put her into the same Class with Females convicted of Felony?
I am.

Do not you think it would be very desirable that you should be enabled to separate Prisoners of that Description?
Certainly.

Is Silence enacted?
In some Part of the House of Correction it is carried partially into effect.

Have you any Tread-mills?
Yes; One upon the old Principle; it is One of the large Cylinders.

No Compartments upon it?
No Compartments whatever.

Do not you think that Compartments upon the Tread-mill would enable you to maintain Silence upon the Wheel?
Yes; but it would not apply to the Wheel we have now; it must be upon Mr. Cubitt's Principle.

Have there been great Improvements in the Construction of Tread-wheels since yours was erected?
There has.

Do you think it most desirable to carry into execution the System of Silence wherever possible, and to the greatest Extent?
Certainly.

Have you Day-rooms?
Yes.

Do not you think that in the Day-rooms the Prisoners communicate with each other, and that they often quit the Prison worse than when committed?
Yes, I have seen the ill Effects of it. They are not using the Day-rooms in the House of Correction; they are separate.

In the Criminal Prison do you think it would be most desirable to enact Silence in order to prevent Persons comparatively innocent from being contaminated by associating with more hardened Offenders, who cannot fail to make them much worse?
Certainly.

Before as well as after Trial?
Certainly.

269

Mr. James Sheriff.

As the only Means of preventing Contamination?
Certainly. I think it arises more from this before Trial than after Trial.

Your Discipline has been much improved of late?
Very much.

Do not you find a material Alteration for the better in the State of the Prison since a stricter Discipline has been established?
Certainly; the Gaol is quite different from what it used to be.

And you are not called upon to inflict so many Punishments for Offences within the Prison as formerly?
Less considerably.

In consequence of the better Discipline?
No Doubt of it.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence in the House of Correction permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?
We have an Order for them to be admitted once a Month for the first Three Months. Then only the Father, Wife, Mother, Brother, or Sister.

Do you think that it would be advisable to enact that no Prisoner under Sentence whose Term of Imprisonment did not exceed Six Calendar Months, unless under special Circumstances, should receive any Visits from his Friends?
I do, except under special Circumstances.

Does the Admission of Visitors interfere very much with the Discipline of the Prison?
Certainly it does.

Does it unhinge the Prisoner's Mind?
Yes; and it deranges the whole Arrangements of the Prison.

You have a Chaplain who performs Morning and Evening Service every Sunday, on Christmas Day, and Good Friday, and preaches One Sermon?
Yes.

He reads Prayers every Morning in the Chapel, and frequently visits every Part of the Prison?
Yes.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Gaol and House of Correction?
He has some other Duty at a Distance from Aylesbury some few Miles.

You have a Schoolmaster?
Yes; who also acts as Clerk to the Chaplain.

Do you think it most desirable that the Chaplain should be enabled to devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prison?
Most certainly.

Have you a separate Infirmary for Males and Females?
Yes; that is a new Arrangement within the last few Years.

Do you permit Prisoners under Sentence to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?
No.

Do you permit any Prisoners in your Custody to smoke?
Not after Conviction.

Do you think that it would be advisable to prevent any Luxury whatever from being given to Prisoners under Sentence?
Certainly.

Do you think that it would be advisable for the Discipline of the Prison that smoking should be prohibited in the Gaol or in the House of Correction?
I do.

Do you remember a Man of the Name of ——— that was sent to the Penitentiary in 1833; he was tried and convicted at the Aylesbury Assizes for Housebreaking?
I remember the Man.

Mr. James Sheriff.

He stated that on account of severe Illness, the Cholera, he was placed in what is called the School in the Prison; he says there were from Six to Twelve Prisoners there, some before and some after Trial; is that the Case?
I cannot speak correctly as to that Subject.

You never put Men before and after Trial in the same Place?
In the Boy's Ward it does happen, and also in the Common Gaol, the Convicts being placed there 'till removed.

Is there any Instance of Two and sometimes Three Prisoners sleeping in the same Bed in Aylesbury Prison?
Yes, it frequently happens, which the Magistrates have endeavoured to obviate.

Does ——— speak the Truth when he says that before and after Trial he was allowed to receive cold Victuals from his Friends, and was also permitted to purchase Beer, for which he paid *2d.* a Pint?
Yes, that is the Case with the Convicts.

Were the Prisoners allowed to amuse themselves by playing at Ball?
Yes; the Prisoners before Conviction; and it is the Case now, and I have applied to the Visiting Magistrates to have it prohibited.

If he stated that the Conversation of the Prisoners was generally of the worst Description, should you be surprised at it?
Not the least, for I have not the Means of Inspection.

In the House of Correction at Aylesbury is any Manufacture carried on by the Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour?
Not any, except where the Person may be sent as a Shoemaker or a Tailor; we employ them in repairing the Gaol Shoes and the Gaol Clothing.

Are those Prisoners in separate Cells?
They are placed in the House of Correction, and they are in separate Cells.

Have they any Day-rooms?
They have Day-rooms, but they do not use them, except that on a Sunday they are allowed to walk for an Hour or Two between Divine Service in the Morning and the Afternoon, if their Conduct be orderly.

Do they exercise in the Airing-yard?
Yes.

How long has the present Dietary been adopted?
I think on the 11th of November 1833.

Since the reduced Dietary has been established do you find the Prisoners equally healthy?
I never knew them so healthy as they have been from that Time to the present Period.

Are the new separate Cells warmed in any Way?
They are not.

Have you found that the Prisoners suffered in the Winter from Cold?
Not in the least the last Winter; in fact we did not use a Bushel of Coals in the Day-rooms; we used to allow them Two Bushels every Three Days.

Are the Windows glazed?
The Windows are glazed in the sleeping Rooms, in the separate Cells.

Do the Prisoners receive any Portion of their Earnings? Do the Officers receive any?
None; we have several of those before Trial employed making Straw Plait, the Earnings of which they have themselves, the whole of it.

Would it not be more satisfactory to the Governors and Keepers of Prisons that they should receive a fixed Salary, and an Allowance for travelling Expenses, and not receive any Portion of the Earnings of the Prisoners?
Certainly.

Was

271

Mr. James Sheriff.

Was there an Individual of the Name of Charles Lynn, Thirty-eight Years of Age, committed for Murder 8th January 1825, and acquitted at the Lent Assizes of that Year on the Ground of Insanity, and ordered to be kept in Custody 'till His Majesty's Pleasure be known?
Yes.

Is that Man now in your Custody?
Yes.

Has there been any Application made by the Visiting Justices to remove him to a Lunatic Asylum?
Application was made immediately after Conviction for an Order to remove him, and that has been repeated several Times.

Do you know the Reasons why he has not been removed?
I do not.

Have you in your Custody a Man of the Name of James Brook, aged Forty-four, committed for maliciously shooting, and acquitted at the Summer Assizes in 1828, the Jury having found that he was insane when the Fact was committed?
Yes.

Is he still in your Custody?
Yes.

Has any Application been made to remove him?
I believe there has, by the Visiting Magistrates.

Those Two Persons are now in your Custody?
They are.

Do you believe them to be insane?
It is difficult to say, but I should think certainly not.

By the Law as it now stands, do you feel yourself authorized to place those Persons to hard Labour?
No.

Do not you think it very prejudicial to the Discipline of the Prison that these Men should remain in your Custody?
Certainly.

Do you think that if they were really insane that it would not be for their Benefit that they should be removed to a Lunatic Asylum, where they might be properly taken care of?
Yes.

In what Class and with whom are these Two Persons confined?
With the Prisoners before Trial.

Would they not be there enabled to procure Knives and other Weapons, which, if insane, might be dangerous to themselves, to the Officers, and to the other Prisoners?
Certainly they might.

Is there a County Lunatic Asylum in Buckinghamshire?
No, there is not.

Do you think it very advisable that Persons who have been sentenced to Transportation should be removed as quickly as possible from the Prisons?
I do.

Are the Debtors permitted to receive as much Provisions as they think fit?
They are.

Are they permitted to receive Beer, Wine, or Spirits?
Yes, to a certain Extent; we allow them about Two Pints a Day each; but no Spirits, except under the Directions of the Surgeons.

And they are allowed to smoke?
Yes.

Are they allowed to receive Visits from their Friends?
Yes.

Mr. James Sheriff.

Should you permit a Female to visit a Male Debtor and go into his Room?
No.

Can the Debtors see the other Prisoners?
No, they cannot.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. G. T. Bullar.

Mr. GEORGE THOMAS BULLAR is called in, and further examined as follows:

Have you received, as Secretary of the Prison Discipline Society, several Returns containing Information from different Gaolers and Keepers of Houses of Correction in England?
The Society sent out a Letter to all the Gaols and Houses of Correction included in the Account, and likewise the Corporate Gaols, and I have selected about Fifty from those.

Have you any Objection to deliver them in to the Committee?
Not at all; it is the Wish of the Prison Discipline Committee to communicate any Information they have to your Lordships.

The Witness delivers in the same. (*Vide* Appendix.)

Have you any Observation to make arising out of these Letters?
From these Letters I have selected a few Instances which show the very lengthened Periods of Confinement which have taken place. At Northampton County Gaol, from July the 14th to March the 1st, in the Course of the last Year, 230 Days. Lincoln Castle, from July the 26th to March the 11th, 228 Days, and that Prisoner was acquitted. Leicester County Gaol, from August 10th to March 25th, 227 Days. Monmouth County Gaol, from August 21st to March 31st, 222 Days. Norwich County Gaol, August 14th to March the 22d, 220 Days; Four Prisoners lay there for that Length of Time. York City Gaol—it is stated in the Return better than Seven Months; I have called it 217 Days; that Prisoner was acquitted. Herts County Gaol, Seven Months, 214 Days; the Prisoner acquitted. Lancaster Castle, Seven Months, Two Prisoners, 214 Days. Berks, Reading County Gaol, from August 19th to February 28th, 193 Days. Salisbury County Gaol, March 8th to July 18th, 132 Days. Marlborough House of Correction, 106 Days; the Prisoner acquitted. That is a very bad Prison; it is stated that Ten or Twelve Prisoners are usually confined in One Room in that Prison, and there is no Employment. There are several more contained in the Letters for shorter Periods. It appears from the Parliamentary Returns, that in the Year 1832 there were 4,260 Prisoners for Trial at the several Assizes or General Gaol Deliveries in England, exclusive of London and Middlesex, and Lancashire. Of these, 1,238 only were liable to the Punishment of Death, and, consequently, the Remainder, 3,022, nearly Three Fourths, might have been tried at the Quarter Sessions. If intermediate Sessions had been held in every County much unnecessary Imprisonment before Trial might also have been saved. With the Permission of the Committee, I will read a short Extract from the Society's Report; it is a Note on the Report of the Secondary Punishment Committee, which bears upon the same Subject. "In the Month of December 1822 a Special Commission was issued for a Third Assize throughout the Home Circuit. This Assize has been continued every succeeding Winter, and the Numbers liberated on these Occasions are the best Evidence of the Effects of the Excellence of the Measure. From official Statements it appears that nearly One Third of the Annual Commitments in this Circuit have been tried at the Third Assize. The Commitments for Capital Offences alone in 1824, on this Circuit, amounted to 1,109, and of these 363 were tried at the Winter Assize; these Persons were consequently saved the Hardship of Three Months Imprisonment before Trial. On reference to the Returns for the last Seven Years it appears that, with the Exception of London and Middlesex, the Numbers committed for Trial on the Home Circuit were, in proportion to those committed in the other Circuits, as 17,191 to 80,600, or about One Fifth; if, therefore, the Third Assize had been general for the last Seven Years, One Third of the latter Number, or above 25,000 Persons, would, on the other Circuits, have been spared the Injury

of

of Three Months Imprisonment. If the Commitments on the Home Circuit to those on the other Circuits be but One to Five, this small Proportion shows that the Interests of Justice are deeply concerned in extending the Benefits of a Third Gaol Delivery throughout the Kingdom. In the Case of Persons who are eventually acquitted the Cruelty of the existing System is strikingly apparent; but as it regards those sentenced to short Terms of Imprisonment only it is scarcely less unjust. The Total Number convicted during the last Seven Years amounted to 85,257; of these, 45,799, or more than One Half, were sentenced to Periods of Confinement not exceeding Six Months; how great then is the Number of Persons who have suffered before Trial longer Imprisonment than the Law adjudged to them afterwards; and although it is occasionally the Practice of the Bench to make Allowance for the Length of previous Confinement in passing Sentence, yet such a Practice allows to the Judge too much Power in some Cases, while the Law, not contemplating the Anomaly, confers too little Discretion in others. In every such Case it reverses the natural Order of Justice, making Punishment to precede Conviction. It would be desirable that an Adjourned Session should be held in every County Six Weeks from the preceding Quarter Sessions, for the Trial of Prisoners only; this would be attended with but little Expense or Trouble, and give Prisoners that Relief to which they are entitled. This Arrangement would usually enable the Jury and Grand Jury to be discharged at every Session and Adjourned Session at the End of One Day, instead of being detained, as they now are, for Two or more Days, at considerable Expense and Inconvenience. Besides the Magistrates at Quarter Sessions often divide themselves into Two Courts for the sake of Dispatch, One Court taking Appeals and Misdemeanors; thus the Prisoners and Parties have not the Benefit of the Judgment of an entire Bench, and the Magistrates are precluded from acquiring Information as to what passes in the Civil as well as Criminal Court."

Mr. G. T. Bullar.

Are you of opinion that the Governors and Keepers of Prisons in England and Wales are a superior Class of Persons to what they were some Thirty Years since?

From the short Period I have visited Prisons, I think they are, decidedly.

Do not you think that the Prisons under the Provisions of the 4th Geo. 4, C. 64, are better now than they were formerly?

Decidedly.

Can you say as much in favor of those under Corporate Jurisdictions?

Not generally.

Are not a great many of the Corporate Prisons very bad now?

The small Corporate Gaols are in a very bad State.

Have you read Mr. Crawford's Report in which he says that he considers the State of Newgate a Disgrace to this Country?

Yes.

Do you agree with him?

I believe that is the Sentiment of the Prison Discipline Committee.

Have you any Observations to offer to the Committee?

I am not aware of any. The Prison Discipline Committee have the Alteration of the Gaol Act under Consideration, and they are desirous of furnishing your Lordships Committee with some Observations upon the Subject.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. RICHARD BUTLER BRIERLEY is called in, and examined as follows:

Mr. R. B. Brierley.

You are the Governor of the County Gaol of Nottinghamshire, situated at Nottingham?

I am.

It appears in the Return which you made at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of 1834, pursuant to the Gaol Act, in the Twenty-third Query, that

Mr. R. B. Brickley.

2*s.* 11*d.* is allowed per Week, out of which the Prisoners find their own Coal; to whom is that 2*s.* 11*d.* paid?

The County give the Prisoners a Loaf of Bread a Day, that is, a Pound and a Half of Bread; the Cost of that is 2½*d.*; Two Pints of Milk a Day, 1½*d.*; and a Penny a Day in Money; making 2*s.* 11*d.* each per Week.

All your Prisoners are before Trial?

The greater Part of them; there are some few under Sentence of Transportation.

But those under Sentence of Transportation are supported by the Government, and not by the County?

Capital Convicts at the Assizes are supported by the County, and the County receive from the Sheriff 2*s.* 6*d.* per Week for their Keep, for so long a Period as they remain in the County Gaol.

What do the Prisoners do with the Penny that they receive, do they purchase Coals?

Yes.

From whom?

The Coal is supplied by the Keeper. I deliver the Coal out to them at Cost Price.

From whom do you purchase it; is it a private Transaction of your own, or do you purchase it by Tender?

It is a private Transaction of my own.

It is a Transaction that has been authorized by the Visiting Justices?

Yes.

Do not you conceive that it is contrary to the Provisions of the Gaol Act?

Yes; I have said as much to the Justices repeatedly.

The Gaol Act prohibits any Officer of the Prison from being directly or indirectly concerned in the Sale of any Article to the Prisoners?

It does.

Are the Prisoners classed according to the Gaol Act in every Particular?

They are.

Is Silence enacted?

No, it is not; we endeavour to keep them as quiet as we possibly can.

Have you Day-rooms?

Yes.

Do you think it would be most advisable to keep Silence in the Prison?

It certainly would.

Is it possible to do so if you have Day-rooms?

I am afraid it is not, under our present System.

Would it not be better to convert the Day-rooms into Cells, so as to have as many Cells as possible in the Prison to enable you to separate the Prisoners?

It would.

Do you think that under the present System many Persons quit the Prison worse than when they were committed?

I am sorry to say that they do.

In consequence of those who are comparatively innocent associating with others of much more depraved Characters?

Yes.

If a Man is committed to your Custody for a Misdemeanor, are you not obliged by the Gaol Act to confine him with other Misdemeanants?

Yes.

You cannot take into your Consideration the Fact of his having been before convicted of Felony?

No, we cannot.

275

Mr. R. B. Brierley.

It often happens that a Man who is classed with Misdemeanants has been before convicted of a Felony?

Yes; I had an Instance of that a Fortnight since. Three well-known Thieves were convicted as Misdemeanants, and I was obliged to put them amongst the other Misdemeanants, although I consider they were as bad Characters as any I had in the Prison.

Do you appoint Wardsmen or Monitors from among the Prisoners?

No. Our Prisoners consist generally of Prisoners committed for Trial; there are some few under summary Conviction by Magistrates.

There are no Prisoners Earnings in your Prison?

There are not.

Do not you think that as a general Rule it would be much better that the Officers of Prisons should receive a fixed Salary, with an Allowance for travelling Expenses, rather than that they should receive any Part of the Prisoners Earnings?

Yes, a great deal better.

More satisfactory to the Officers as well as to the Prisoners?

Yes.

You have a Chaplain in your Prison; does he devote the whole of his Time?

Not the whole, but he is regular in his prescribed Duties.

Has he any other Duties to perform?

I am sorry to say he has become very old; he has been Chaplain to our Gaol more than Twenty-eight Years, and he has become infirm.

Have you a Schoolmaster?

No.

Have you separate Apartments for the Male and Female sick?

Not for the Female; only for the Male.

Where do you place a Woman when sick?

She is kept below, with the others.

Would it not be desirable that that Part of the Gaol Act should be carried into execution in your Prison, "that there should be a separate Apartment for the Male and Female sick"?

It would be desirable.

Have you at present in your Custody a Woman of the Name of Mary Holland, aged Thirty-two, who was indicted for the Wilful Murder of her Child, found not Guilty upon the Ground of being insane at the Time the Offence was committed, and ordered to be confined 'till His Majesty's Pleasure be known?

Yes.

She has been in the Gaol more than Twelve Months?

She has.

And she shows no Symptom of Insanity, but conducts herself in a rational Manner?

She does.

There was no Reason to suppose her insane previous to committing the Crime?

No.

Has any Application been made to the Secretary of State?

Yes; an Application has been made now to the Secretary of State, but we have not received an Answer at present.

What was the Nature of the Application?

For her final Discharge from Prison.

When was it made?

About a Fortnight since.

Mr. R. B. Brierley.

Upon what Ground did the Magistrates apply to the Secretary of State to recommend that His Majesty's Pardon should be granted to a Person who had murdered her Child?

There is a Certificate from the Physician to the Asylum, to say that if the Woman was in the Asylum he should give her her Discharge; he considers her as perfectly of sane Mind.

Is there not a very great Inconvenience in the present Practice of keeping Persons within the Gaols who have been acquitted upon the Ground of Insanity?

Yes, there is.

If they are insane, is it not right and proper that they should be removed to a Lunatic Asylum, where they can be taken care of?

Yes, I think it quite right.

On the other Hand, is it not very prejudicial to the Discipline of the Prison that an insane Person should be kept in the Prison?

It is, certainly.

You are obliged to confine this Woman with Persons committed for Trial?

Yes.

Is it right with respect to the other Prisoners?

It is not, certainly.

If she was insane she might do personal Mischief, and if not insane most probably would contaminate them?

Yes.

You do not conceive that even if you had the Means you would be authorized to employ a Prisoner acquitted on the Ground of Insanity to hard Labour?

I do not.

Do you conceive that you have any Power over an Individual placed in these Circumstances in Gaol beyond that of Detention?

No.

Is there a County Lunatic Asylum at Nottingham?

Yes, a very good one; I removed a Criminal Lunatic there about Two Years ago.

Do you permit the Prisoners before Trial to smoke in Nottingham Prison?

No.

Do you permit them to receive any Luxuries?

None whatever.

Is there any Observation you wish to make to the Committee relative to any Improvement of the Gaol Act or of Prison Discipline?

I am not aware that there is any.

Your Opinion is decidedly in favor of Silence and Separation, and you think it necessary to enforce both before Trial, in order to prevent Prisoners becoming worse upon their Discharge than when committed?

I think so, decidedly.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned 'till To-morrow, Two o'Clock.

Die Veneris, 8° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Evidence on Gaols.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

JOHN HENRY CAPPER Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Superintendent of the Convict Establishment?
I am.

You are also at the Head of the Office in the Home Department for the Criminal Business?
Yes.

Do you receive the Returns that are annually made by the Clerks of the Peace, according to the Provisions of the 4th Geo. 4. Cap. 64. commonly called the Gaol Act?
Yes.

They are annually laid upon the Tables of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons?
Yes.

Are you aware of the Provisions of the Act of the 5th Geo. 4. Cap. 85?
Yes; that is the second Act for the Regulation of Gaols.

Will you have the goodness to turn to Section 7. of that Act. [The same is handed to the Witness.] Is it not there enacted that the Returns in the Form Schedule A. to that Act annexed shall be annually made to the Secretary of State at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Corporate Jurisdictions?
Yes, it is.

Has that Act of Parliament been a dead Letter, or has it been acted upon?
It has been acted upon to a certain Extent. I believe they have only been returned to the Extent of any Alterations that have been made.

Does not that Act of Parliament specifically enact that Annual Returns shall be made to the Secretary of State?
It does.

And so far as that Provision is concerned the Act of Parliament has not been obeyed?
It has not been obeyed generally.

In what Year was that Act of Parliament passed?
1825.

And no Returns have been received at the Home Office, as directed by that Act, from that Moment to this, with the Exception of the Returns that were made to the Address of the House of Commons on the 22d of July 1828?
I am not quite certain upon that Point; the Plans of every Prison are in the Office; but I am not aware of any Returns except of such Alterations as may have taken place from Time to Time.

That Act of Parliament enacted that the Annual Returns should be made?
Certainly.

No general Returns have been received, but only Returns of the Alterations?
Yes; I allude to the Local Jurisdictions.

Is it the Practice in the Office, if a Return appears unsatisfactory, if on the Face of it it appears that the Act of Parliament has been evaded or not obeyed, for the Secretary of State to call the Attention of the Clerk of the Peace, or the Visiting Justices, to the Infraction of the Provisions of the Act?
In certain Cases, but not generally; where they have been neglected to be

J. H. Capper, Esq.

signed by the Chairman of the Sessions, or where they have not complied with the Act as to the passing through the Sessions, it has been noticed.

In the Returns from the Quarter Sessions of 1834 from the Counties, are there not some Instances of no Answers being made to several of the Queries?
I believe they have returned Answers from the Counties.

Have they returned Answers to all the Queries in the County Returns?
Yes, I think they have done that.

Can you from Recollection say, whether the Attention of the Magistrates, the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Sheriffs of the Town of Berwick, which is a Local Jurisdiction in the County of Northumberland, has been called to the Report of the Mayor in 1828?
I think not.

These are the general Observations to which the Question is directed, "The Number of Prisoners returned under Column 5. consists chiefly of Vagrants, and Persons committed for petty Misdemeanors, Assaults, and other disorderly Conduct, and who, unless committed for Trial at the Quarter Sessions, are generally discharged after a few Days Confinement in Gaol, on being examined and reprimanded by the Mayor and Magistrates. No Contract has been made with any County or Division adjoining for the Use of its Prison; nor is any such Contract in contemplation. There are no Rules or Regulations in force for the Government of the said Prison, except the Regulations for prohibiting the Introduction of spirituous Liquors, &c. into the Gaol, as required by Law. The Gaoler is under the Superintendence of the Mayor and Bailiffs for the Time being, who act as Sheriffs; and the Gaoler also receives Directions from Time to Time from the Mayor and the committing Magistrates as to the Treatment and ordering of the Prisoners confined in the said Gaol. The Incommodiousness and Insecurity of the Prison or Gaol is much increased from the Circumstance of there being no House of Correction within the Borough, in consequence whereof Offenders of every Description are committed to the said Gaol, and from the Smallness of its Size there is no Possibility of classing the Prisoners, or of setting them to any Kind of Work or Employment. During the Year there have been as many as Seven Boys under Sixteen Years of Age confined at One Time, who were obliged to associate with the most hardened old Offenders, Night and Day, during the Period of Two Months, as there was no Possibility of classing them on account of the Want of Room; it follows, of course, that the former must go out schooled in Vice, and be worse Members of Society than they were before their Commitment. The Debtors Ward is equally bad, owing to the Males and Females being classed together; and at this Time there are some Female Debtors imprisoned of very idle Habits, which has been the Means of creating great Disturbance in the Gaol from their promiscuously associating together, and which at present cannot be prevented. All these Evils might in a great measure be remedied if a sufficient House of Correction were erected in the Borough." Signed by the Mayor. You are not aware that the Secretary of State for the Home Department has called the Attention of the Corporation to this Statement of the Condition of the Gaol, which, to make use of the Words of Mr. Crawford in another Report, is a Disgrace to any civilized Country?
I am not aware of it.

You cannot now produce from the Home Department any Returns of the Local Jurisdictions, with the Exception of those of 1828, which were sent in consequence of an Address from the House of Commons?
There are Papers where Alterations have taken place, but nothing more.

What do you mean by Alterations; do you mean Alterations in the Buildings, or in the Discipline, or in the Salaries of the Officers?
Any Alteration as to the Officers, or the Salaries of the Officers, or the Rules and Regulations.

Does not it appear that in many of the Corporate Jurisdictions there are no written Rules and Regulations?
They are very negligent upon that Subject.

Has the Secretary of State ever called the Attention of the Visiting Justices

279

J. H. Capper, Esq.

tices of the County of Northumberland to their Disobedience of the Gaol Act in not having appointed Chaplains to any of their Prisons, except the One at Morpeth?

I am not aware that he has.

Has the Secretary of State ever called upon the Mayor and Visiting Magistrates of the Borough of Portsmouth for their Reasons for not having appointed a Chaplain according to the Provisions of the Act of Parliament?

I am not aware that he has.

Will you have the goodness to state the Number of Convict Stations which you have now in England, Scotland, and Ireland?

There are none in Scotland or Ireland; there are Two in Ireland, but they are Stations entirely attached to the Lord Lieutenant; the Stations in England are Woolwich, Chatham, and Portsmouth.

Will you state the Number of Vessels at each?

The Justitia, at Woolwich, contains 460 Convicts at the present Time; the Ganymede 380, at the same Place; the Fortitude, at Chatham, 700; the Euryalus, containing Boys only, 230; the Leviathan, at Portsmouth, 548; and the York, at the same Place, 381.

Is there any Change in the Discipline of the Hulks since your Evidence on the 21st of July 1831?

No further Alteration except the Abridgment of every Sort of Indulgence excepting One, and that is the Permission to purchase White Bread for those Men who labour at the Rate of 1*d.* per Diem, which Sum is allowed by the Navy and the Ordnance, but nothing else beyond their daily Rations.

The Rules and Regulations are the same?

They are. I will deliver in a printed Copy of them.

The Witness delivers in the same. (*Vide* Appendix.)

Fewer Prisoners are confined in the Hulks now than formerly?

They have been gradually reducing ever since January 1833. At that Period there were upwards of 4,000, and it is being ordered that they should so gradually be reduced, except keeping up Two Depôts, one at Portsmouth and the other at Woolwich, to receive Prisoners from the Gaols, but who are to be from Time to Time sent Abroad.

How many are there now?

Two thousand six hundred and fifty-nine in all the Hulks. There are Ships fitting at this Time for receiving 670 Convicts, and a Thousand have already gone Abroad in the present Year.

Is it your Intention to send any more out?

Yes; 2,000 more, at least, this Year.

The Committee have found, on inspecting some of the Prisons in London, and from the Evidence on others, that in certain Cases Women are returned to the Gaols on account of the Surgeon having refused to receive them; in some Instances from their having bad Teeth, and in others from their being ruptured?

There have been some Instances, certainly. There was a Case of a Woman that had no Teeth, and unable therefore to eat the Biscuit; but that was not the only Reason; she was an old Woman, and unable to undergo the Voyage, and the Surgeon would not run the Risk. With respect to those afflicted with Rupture, on which Surgeons have frequently spoken to me, I have expressed an Opinion, that if a Woman is badly ruptured, and Sea-sickness comes on, it is a considerable Risk to her Life; but those Instances are very rare. Some of them named in the Gaol Returns are in a very diseased State, and wholly unfit to be sent Abroad.

Do not you think it would be desirable that Convicts who are unfit to be transported should be sent to a Penitentiary, and removed from the County Prisons?

I do, most certainly.

Do they not very much interfere with the Discipline of the Prison?

They do. There was a Removal very recently from the Gaol of Newgate,

J. H. Capper, Esq.

and some of those were wholly unfit to go Abroad; I think as many as Eight or Ten were selected. With respect to those that remained, there was a Hope that they would recover, being Females of very bad Character. There is a Ship, for the Conveyance of Female Convicts to Van Diemen's Land, now fitting in the River, when those Females detained in Newgate will be again examined as to their Fitness to undergo the Voyage.

As the Law now stands, have the Magistrates the Power to put to hard Labour a Person who has been sentenced to Transportation?

Yes, they have; there was an Act passed about Five or Six Years ago giving that Power.

The Committee visited the Hulks a short Time since at Woolwich, and they there saw a Man in a solitary Cell for refractory Conduct in the Convict Ship, and placed there by the Overseer of that Vessel; for how long a Time has the Overseer the Power of confining a Prisoner in that Manner?

Seven Days, during which Time he may keep him upon Bread and Water only.

Has he the Power of confining a Convict for refractory Conduct in the Hulks in a solitary Cell for Twelve Days, provided he gives him the full Allowance of Food?

Yes; that is done under particular Circumstances, but not upon Bread and Water. He would have full Rations after Seven Days. The Overseer makes his Report once a Week of what takes place, and daily, if any extraordinary Circumstance takes place in the Hulk.

The Cell being nearly dark, do not you think that too much Power is given to the Overseer?

Without his reporting to myself, for which I hold myself responsible to the Secretary of State, I should say it would be.

Might not the Regulation be altered in this respect, to give a Power to the Overseer to confine, as he does now, for Seven Days upon Bread and Water, but that if he confined for a longer Period he should report to you as he does now, but that he should also have the Sanction of the Commissioners of the Dock Yard or the Commanding Officer of the Arsenal?

I do not know how that would operate. I doubt putting into their Hands any Power of that Sort, because if he requires a further Punishment of an incorrigible Offender than authorized by the Instructions, and for the same Offence, he has nothing to do but to report to me.

Do not you think that an Overseer ought to be prohibited from keeping a Convict in solitary Confinement for so long a Period without your Sanction first obtained?

Certainly. I had no Idea that this Man to whom Reference has been made was in a solitary Cell, but merely kept separate from other Prisoners for his desperate Conduct.

Could not this Practice be prevented by your giving Directions that the Overseer should not have the Power to confine any Convict in a solitary Cell above Seven Days, without your Sanction first obtained?

Certainly.

For what Length of Time can you keep him in solitary Confinement on Bread and Water?

Seven Days for One Offence.

For how long can you keep him in solitary Confinement upon the usual Allowance?

That is a Matter of Discretion; I should not exercise it beyond a Fortnight under any Circumstances.

For how long have you the Power of doing it?

There is no Limitation of the Power as to keeping a Prisoner separate from others.

Are they under periodical Inspection in the Hulks?

By Law I must go down Four Times a Year.

So that there is no Check upon the Overseer's Returns to you; but you depend upon him?

I depend upon the Weekly Returns that I receive, which Returns are sent up to me every Monday of all the material Occurrences that take place in the preceding Week.

How often do you visit the Hulks?

I should say that I visit the distant Ports Six Times a Year, and Woolwich about Once a Month.

Can you furnish the Committee with a Return of the Number of Convicts, distinguishing Male from Female, that has been transported in the last few Years, the Number of Ships, and stating the Number of Deaths that have occurred on the Voyage?

I will furnish such a List.

Silence is not enacted in the Convict Ships?

It would be very difficult, in consequence of their going on shore to labour.

Would it not be possible, by having larger Hulks, not to have so many Prisoners in the Divisions?

In consequence of the intended Reductions, when the Two Depôts are reduced to a Number, say 1,500 or 2,000, a greater Separation could be accomplished, and many Points obviated, as to Classification, that cannot now be done, which would certainly be most desirable. The more they are divided and subdivided the better.

The Evidence you gave in 1831 contains your Opinion upon this Subject; have you changed your Opinion since that Time?

I have not.

Is there any thing you wish to state to the Committee upon the Subject of the present Inquiry?

Here is a Report I made, which has just been laid before the House, containing the Number and the Expenses; and, with the Permission of the Committee, I will offer One or Two Observations upon it. The Cost of maintaining the Convicts on board the Hulks during the last Year, including the Expenses of keeping the Hulks in repair, and, in fact, every Charge, was 15*l.*, and, after deducting the Earnings of those employed on shore, at 1*s.* per Diem each, under the Ordnance and the Navy, would reduce it to 4*l.* per Annum.

Does that mean the Convicts sent Abroad?

No; only those that go on shore to labour during their Stay in this Country. The victualling of a Convict during the last Year cost 4¼*d.* per Diem, and the Boys 3¼*d.*

How are they found to work, compared with free Labourers?

I should say about Three to Two.

How many Hours a Day do they work?

I calculate about Nine; we are obliged to limit ourselves according to the Dock Yard Hours of Labour; when the Dock Yard have done their Work we are obliged to break off.

Do the same Prisoners often return to you?

I do not think so frequently as might be expected. The Fact is, that we transport them now, particularly all the incorrigible Offenders, so that the Discharges upon the Public will be comparatively few, in Time. It is certainly melancholy to notice the bad Characters. In a Draught of Prisoners brought to the Hulks a few Days ago, from Yorkshire, out of Thirty-nine there were Twenty-seven that had been in Gaol before.

Were there any of your old Acquaintance?

There was not above One that had been in the Hulks, but they had been in Beverley House of Correction over and over again, and some at Wakefield, where they are very well regulated.

Do many come to the Hulks, except for Second Offences?

For Second Offences they invariably transport them.

H. Capper, Esq.

Do the Judges and Magistrates now usually transport for Second Convictions of Felony?

Yes; and the Number of juvenile Offenders is very great; I have made an Abstract of the Number committed last Year under Twenty-one Years of Age: Aged Twelve and under, there were 400 committed, Males and Females; under Sixteen and above Twelve, 2,204; and from Sixteen to Twenty-one, 6,473.

Do they come to the Hulks for Transportation from all Parts of England and Wales?

They do.

Are they never sent out from Liverpool?

No; the Subject was considered, but there was considerable Inconvenience likely to arise.

Nor from Bristol?

Nor from Bristol; there were Objections to it which I stated in my former Report.

Do the Scotch Transports likewise come to the Hulks?

Yes.

Is not that very expensive?

They come by Water most of them.

Do you iron them?

Yes; we are obliged to do that for Security, otherwise they would escape, but they are very moderately ironed. On the 1st of January 1834 there were 3,060 Prisoners on board the Hulks in England, since which there have been received 4,374; the whole Number transported in last Year was 4,032, and 702 were discharged upon the Public by Pardon or otherwise; 142 died, 2 escaped, and 2,556 remained on the First of January last.

When you say discharged by Pardon or otherwise, what do you mean by otherwise?

Having served their Time out.

Any upon Medical Grounds?

Very few. It is not made a Ground for Recommendation.

Are they released on account of their being reported to have behaved well in the Hulks?

Yes; after a Convict has completed Four Years out of Seven he becomes eligible to be recommended; not the whole of them, but only a Selection of a certain Number, say Two out of every Hundred.

What is the Proportion of those that come upon your Hands?

The Proportion is but few comparatively; I should say 10 per Cent. This is now obviated by sending the incorrigible Offenders Abroad.

Are they ever flogged on board the Hulks?

Very rarely; not without Communication being made to me of the Nature of the Offence; it is occasionally necessary to make an Example when all other Means have failed.

What do you call good Conduct, so as to recommend them for a Remission of the Sentence?

They are mustered every Quarter; all the Offences that are committed are registered in a Book, and read to them in the Presence of the Chaplain and the other Officers, and if a Man has a Mark against him for any violent Conduct, or Attempt at Theft from another Prisoner, or from the Works when employed on shore, he would not be eligible for a Recommendation.

What Attention is paid to their Religious Duties on board the Hulks?

There is a Clergyman to each Ship, who performs Service on Sunday; he reads Prayers twice a Week in the Hospital; and Three Evenings in the Week there are Prayers read by one of the Guards, or a trusty Prisoner, in each of the Wards, or the Chapel, as the Case may be.

Does the Clergyman give them any Instruction in Classes?

He does not do that. There is an Evening School attended by a Guard or a Prisoner

933

a Prisoner to instruct. The Chaplain attends upon Occasions for admonishing Prisoners who conduct themselves improperly.

Who points out to that Person what Sort of Instruction he shall give them?
That is done under the Chaplain's Order; he comes on board almost every Day.

Is the Instruction in reading to them, or is it in any way by examining them?
Merely in reading to them, and teaching them to read. Writing is not much encouraged. There is a valuable Set of Tables prepared at the Home Office, of the Number of Criminal Offenders, about to be laid before both Houses of Parliament; I possess a Copy of it, which I am authorized to lay before the Committee. It is so prepared that you not only have the Classes of the Crimes in each County, but you have the Ages also, distinguishing Males and Females.

The Witness delivers in the same.

I will also deliver in a general summary Statement of the Number of Criminal Offenders committed to the several Gaols in England and Wales, during the last Seven Years.

The Witness delivers in the same.

The Visiting Justices or the Keepers of the Gaols apply to you when a Man has been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?
Yes.

What is the usual Course that is pursued?
We send a Form for them to fill up, to state in detail whether the Man has been tried and acquitted upon the Ground of Insanity, or whether he is merely detained, and not fit to be put upon his Trial. If he has been tried and acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, but ordered to be detained until His Majesty's Pleasure be known, a Communication is made to ascertain whether the Visiting Magistrates of the Gaol have any Lunatic Asylum in the County to which they propose his Removal; a considerable Difficulty frequently arises upon that very Subject.

Do they not very often report to you that the Man has been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, but that he is not insane?
I hold in my Hand, at the present Moment, a List of 25 that I have abstracted out of the last Gaol Returns, most of them for Murder and Shooting, that are in County Gaols, that are sane, consequently not fit to be sent to a Lunatic Asylum, and therefore the Difficulty of the Government is to know what to do to such Men; in many Cases they are too dangerous to turn upon the Public, having committed Crimes of a serious Character, and you cannot send them to an Asylum for Care, because they are sane.

And the Visitors of a Lunatic Asylum would not feel themselves authorized to keep Men as Lunatics who were not Lunatics in the Opinion of their Medical Men?
We have had Instances of sending those Men to Lunatic Asylums at the Suggestion of the Visiting Magistrates of the Gaols, and they have not been Six Months in the Lunatic Asylum before we have a Certificate to say that the Man is perfectly sane, and then the Difficulty is to know how to deal with this Person.

How do you deal with him?
Remand him back to the County Gaol.

Where he remains at the Expense of the County?
Yes.

In the Lunatic Asylum he remains at the Expense of the Parish?
Yes.

Do not you conceive this to be a very great Inconvenience to the Discipline of the County Gaols?
I do.

J.H. Capper, Esq.

Has any Suggestion offered itself to your Mind to correct this Evil?
The only Way would be for some particular Class to be formed in the Prisons.

Would you see any Objection to a particular Class being formed at some public Institution, such as Bedlam?
It would not do at Bedlam, for there is no Room to spare for the Purpose; for what the Government have there as Criminal Lunatics already occupy the whole Space allotted for that Purpose, it being necessary to keep Two or Three reserved Places in case of Lunacy in the Penitentiary. It has been in contemplation, and I proposed last Year to the Secretary of State, that if about 2,000*l.* was provided I had no Doubt Government could get the Consent of the Governors of Bedlam Hospital to add to the Building there, which would relieve, in many Cases, the County Gaols of those Persons confined for Shooting and Wounding, and Murder, where they are weak-minded and not decidedly insane, but idiotic; not fit to be discharged upon the Public, but too dangerous to be left to wander about.

In Counties where there are Lunatic Asylums, it is presumed that there is no great Difficulty in sending Persons that are insane?
With respect to Criminals there is in the County of Middlesex; they have remonstrated very much lately about sending them from the Gaol of Newgate, though they are Middlesex Prisoners; they state that they have not Security for that Class of Offenders.

There is a Man at this Moment in Newgate, who was acquitted, upon the Ground of Insanity, for shooting?
There is.

Do not you think that the Attention of the Legislature should be directed to prevent the Detention of those Persons in the County Prisons, because, if they are insane, they cannot be so well taken care of in the Prison as they would be in a Lunatic Asylum; and if not insane, is it not a very bad Example to other Prisoners?
Most decidedly.

Do you conceive that the Visiting Magistrates have the Power of ordering Persons so committed to hard Labour?
No.

Therefore, in fact, they are generally placed with untried Prisoners, and are a serious Inconvenience?
Considerable Inconvenience results to the Discipline of the Prison.

Do you conceive that a County Lunatic Asylum could refuse to receive these Prisoners?
I think not, upon the King's Order.

But Objections have been made by the Middlesex Asylum?
Yes, very strong Objections; they state that they have not Security to receive that Class of Persons.

The Government at this Moment does not pay the Expense of Convicts 'till they are delivered to the Hulks?
Not 'till they are delivered to the Hulks. The Act provides that the Counties and Local Jurisdictions shall discharge all Expenses of the Removal.

Do not you think it would be advisable to have a uniform System of Discipline in all the Prisons in this Country?
Most decidedly. I see no Difficulty why that should not be accomplished.

Do not you think it would be most advisable, by way of insuring Uniformity of Discipline, that Inspectors of Prisons should be appointed to visit the Prisons and to report from Time to Time to the Secretary of State?
I do think it most desirable in every point of view.

Do you think that the Rules and Regulations of the Prisons should be submitted to the Secretary of State for his Sanction, instead of, as at present, to the Judge of Assize?
I think it far better.

Are

Are you aware that there is any greater Dread of Transportation now than formerly? *J. H. Capper.*

Considerably more, the Governors of the Australian Settlements being restricted as to granting Pardons; it operates, I know, very strongly, and it is beginning now to be well known in this Country by the Felons themselves. The Governor cannot grant a Pardon without the Consent of the Crown, 'till a Prisoner has passed Four Years of a Seven Years Sentence, Six Years of Fourteen, and Eight Years of a Sentence for Life, and then such Pardon can only be conditional to remain in the Colony, and not to come Home without the Consent of the Government at Home.

You think the Effect of that has been felt by the Felons generally?

It is pretty well understood now, and the greatest Proof of that is the Number of Petitions coming Home from the Colony to their Friends to get represented here, knowing that they can get nothing accomplished in New South Wales.

And the Home Department has adopted the Principle of recommending as few Pardons to His Majesty to grant as possible to Persons that are sent Abroad?

The Secretary of State seldom sanctions any Pardon without receiving from Abroad the Governor's Recommendation.

And you think that is becoming gradually better known in England?

I think so. In the overgrown State in which we are, it is really desirable that those Men should go out of the Country, for as to their getting Employment when they are discharged it is Two to One that it cannot be done, and therefore it is a Charity in the first instance to transport them.

How many Pardons have been granted in consequence of Recommendations from the Governor since the Law has been altered in that respect?

As to free Pardons, I do not suppose there have been Thirty; there have been a great many conditional Pardons, that is, to remain in the Colony.

How many Years is it since these new Regulations have been enacted?

About Five Years; there is another Arrangement which is rather a Corrective upon this. There is a Selection now made (it will be the Case with respect to Two Ships just about embarking) of those Prisoners whom the Judges have marked out to be put into Classes, when a Degree of Rigour will be imposed upon them as incorrigible Offenders, and those who have been a Second Time transported.

Are you satisfied that the Punishment of Transportation is under the w Regulation a most severe one?

I am.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. JAMES SHERIFF is called in, and further examined as follows: *Mr. James Sheriff.*

Are you aware whether the Justices of the County of Buckingham at the last Assizes submitted to the Judges any Regulations for the Prisons in that County?

There were Rules submitted to the Judges, and they refused to sanction them.

Will you have the goodness to send to the Committee a Copy of the Rules to which the Judges refused to give their Sanction?

I will.

How short a Period before the Judges quitted the Assize Town were they submitted to them?

I cannot say. The Judges went round the Prisons with me, and expressed themselves very well satisfied with the Arrangements.

Was there a good deal of Business at the Assizes?

Yes, there was.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

R. B. Dean, Esq.

RICHARD B. DEAN Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Chairman of the Board of Customs?
I am.

There are many Prisoners in the different Gaols in this Country under the Head of Revenue Prisoners, and others who are denominated Smugglers; what is the Distinction between the Two?
I do not make any Distinction. There are some that are under Penalties, that are under Confinement 'till they pay; and others are in Confinement, felonious Offenders, having committed some Offence in obstructing the Officers, or having done some daring Act, for which they are confined for a certain Period; and there are others in Confinement under the recent Act of William IV., by way of Commutation for hard Labour, instead of sending them to Sea; they are there for Six or Nine Months.

In all those Cases does the Board of Customs make an Allowance to the Prisoners to procure Provisions?
No; only in case they are certified to us to be incapable of providing for themselves.

In all those Cases where the Prisoners are poor?
Not in the Event of hard Labour; then the Act provides that the Expenses attending their Confinement should be repaid by the Customs; that is certified to us, and it is paid upon the Fiat of the Lords of the Treasury.

This Act of Parliament was passed in the last Session?
It was.

To whom is the Money paid?
To the County Treasurer; it is signed by Two Magistrates with respect to Prisoners confined to hard Labour.

Do you pay for the poor Prisoners the Subsistence Allowance to the Gaolers?
Yes.

Would it be any Inconvenience to your Department to pay that Money to the County Treasurer, and authorize the County to furnish the Food to the Prisoners?
I am not prepared to say that it would.

Great Inconvenience has been found to arise from the Circumstance of the Gaolers receiving the Money, as they think themselves bound to pay the Money to the Prisoners individually, permitting the Prisoners therefore to furnish themselves with Food; the Effect of which is to force the Visiting Magistrates to permit either the Turnkey to purchase the Provisions for them, or to allow the Tradesmen of the Town to come within the Gaol. That Inconvenience would be rectified if the Customs Department would pay the Money to the County Treasurer, and authorize the County to furnish the Food?
We could have no Objection to have it paid in any Way most convenient; the only Object we have in view is to pay no Subsistence unless it be the actual Want of the Party; then the next Object is to see that that Money so paid is distributed for the Wants of the Individual for whom it is paid.

Then you do not conceive that it would be necessary to procure the Signature of the Prisoner?
No, I do not think it would, granting that the Magistrates would take the Trouble to see that what is awarded to that Party is properly distributed. I believe the Maximum is 7*d.* a Day; we have generally made it low, about 4½*d.*, but in Cases of Distress 6*d.*; and all that is given by the Board is to enable the Party to subsist.

You do not think that it would require a new Act of Parliament to make this Change?
No, I do not know whether the Act is peremptory; but if not, I should consider any Order by the Lords of the Treasury to pay over the Money to the Treasurer of the County would be quite sufficient for us.

Should

R. B. Dean, Esq.

Should you have any Objection to limit the Amount of the Allowance which you pay for those Persons to the same Amount which other Prisoners cost the County?

I do not know what the other Prisoners do receive.

Supposing that the Prisoners in a particular Gaol are dieted at an Expense of 3*s*. a Week, would you see any Reason why you should give more than 3*s*. a Week for the Dietary of the Customs Prisoners confined in that Gaol?

No; on the contrary, I think it would be a very good Rule by which the Board of Customs would be guided.

Do you not believe that it would be advantageous to the Discipline of the Gaols that there should be no Difference of Diet between the Prisoners who are confined there under Sentence?

There would be One Difference; I think that a Party who is there under a Penal Action is in a different Light from a Criminal, he is a Debtor to the Crown, and the other is put in for some felonious Act; and perhaps the Magistrates would make some Difference between a Debtor and an Individual who is put there under a graver Character.

But some of your Prisoners are convicted for having obstructed Officers in the Execution of their Duty?

Yes; there a Distinction would arise immediately with respect to those Parties that are put in for felonious Acts; those Parties would come into precisely the same Grade as the other Criminal Prisoners.

Those Debtors are not treated as other Debtors, as the Act of Parliament imposes on them hard Labour?

Yes, those that we technically call Debtors; those that are under Penalties are not so; but those who are committed by way of Commutation are committed for hard Labour for any overt Act tending to bodily Harm or Breach of the Peace,—not the mere Act of running Goods: if they are taken in committing some Act of Violence they would be guilty of Felony.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

W. Courtenay, Esq.

WILLIAM COURTENAY Esquire, Clerk Assistant of the House of Lords, is called in, and examined as follows:

You are Chairman of the Quarter Sessions in the County of Devon?

Yes.

Have you a Copy of the Report made by the Committee of Magistrates appointed in the County of Devon to inquire into the Prison Discipline and into the State of the Prisons of that County?

I have; that is a Report made by a Committee of Magistrates which was appointed, of which a Right Honourable Relative of mine was the Chairman.

Will you have the goodness to deliver in that Report?

The Witness delivers in the same, which is read, and is as follows:

In obedience to the Order of Sessions your Committee have considered whether the Classification of Prisoners in the Gaol and House of Correction can be rendered more effectual for the Purposes intended.

It appears to your Committee that the Objects of Prison Discipline may be classed under Four Heads; namely,—

1. To make Imprisonment an effectual Punishment.
2. To prevent the Collection of bad Men together, with Facilities of Combination for future unlawful Pursuits.
3. To prevent the Admixture of Prisoners of different Degress of Guilt, whereby those who are not very bad are made worse.
4. To give to Prisoners the Opportunity of Moral and Religious Reformation.

These may be presumed to have been the Objects of the Legislature in the Act 4 Geo. 4. Cap. 64. Sec. 10. Regulation 6., whereby it is enacted that the Sexes shall be separated, and that the Prisoners of each Sex shall be classed as follows:—

1. Debtors and Persons in Contempt.
2. Convicted Felons.
3. Convicted Misdemeanants.
4. Suspected Felons for Trial.
5. Misdemeanants for Trial.

W. Courtenay, Esq.

The First Class does not fall within the Reference to your Committee. In regard to the Classes of convicted Felons and Misdemeanants, it appears to your Committee that not One of the Objects of Imprisonment is effectually accomplished while Felons of all Denominations, still more Misdemeanants under all possible Circumstances are herded together; even accompanied by hard Labour, the Punishment is not severe enough to deter Men from the Commission of Offences, while they can freely converse in their Day-rooms and at Meals with other Persons of the same Description; and under such Circumstances not only is Reformation entirely hopeless, but Deterioration, where it is possible, is sure to occur, and new Schemes of Wickedness be devised.

Your Committee are satisfied that the Chaplain and Keeper have done all that has been in their Power, consistently with the Law and the Construction of the Prisons, to mitigate these Evils, and they have Reason to believe that in some Cases the Morals and Habits of juvenile Offenders have been improved in the Prison; but they have on the other hand abundant Evidence of the Occurrence of dangerous Communications among the Prisoners, and great Indifference to Imprisonment as a Punishment.

With Misdemeanants the Case is even worse than with Felons, because supposing it to be true, as many experienced Persons believe, that there is no great Difference of Guilt between one Felon and another, the same cannot be affirmed of Persons confined for Misdemeanors, a Class including a great Variety of Offences, from the most revolting Crimes to the most trifling and even occasionally venial Assaults.

Your Committee find, that in One Ward of the Bridewell there are occasionally to be found Men convicted of disgusting Offences, Men who have deserted their Families, and Men convicted of common Assaults. This Commixture of Offenders is in strict Conformity with the Act of Parliament, and when Prisoners are numerous cannot be avoided by any Subdivision of the Classes of which the present Buildings admit.

It is, perhaps, beyond the Province of your Committee to consider, whether for some of the Evils attending the Punishment of all Misdemeanors by Imprisonment, the best Remedy might be found in an Alteration of the Law which might enable Courts to substitute, in some Cases, Corporal Punishments for Confinement in Gaol. But your Committee cannot abstain from observing, that some of the Offences classed as Misdemeanors do not indicate a high Degree of Moral Guilt, still less, habitual Wickedness in the Offender; and while Imprisonment is only a Substitute for a Fine which the Offender cannot pay, or is adopted only because no other Mode of Punishment is lawful, it is therefore the more peculiar Duty of those who superintend a Prison to take care that Prisoners thus sentenced should not be made worse by a Punishment which is in many Cases reluctantly inflicted.

If it be admitted that the Association of all Felons and all Misdemeanants respectively is objectionable, the First Question is whether any thing, consistent with the Law, can be done to cure the Evil? The Gaol Act does allow of occasional Deviations from the rigid and technical Rule of Classification; it is lawful, under special Circumstances, to place a Prisoner in a Class to which he does not belong, or to confine him "in any other Part of the Prison;" but it is clear that the mere Transfer of a Felon to the Misdemeanor Ward cannot be efficacious, and it can only be in very rare Cases indeed that a separate Confinement is practicable. The Admixture of convicted and suspected Prisoners is equally out of the Question.

The Power of making special Exemptions is occasionally exercised, and it has been suggested to the Committee by the Officers of the Prisons that when the Gaol is not full a Subdivison of some of the Classes may be usefully made: but the Objects of this Subdivision are liable to be continually defeated by an Influx of Prisoners; nor indeed could the most judicious Governor or Visitor undertake to make this Classification of a continually varying Assemblage at all satisfactory. And it is even possible, that if such a moral and appropriate Classification were adopted, as to lessen the Danger of Contamination, the other Evil might be incurred, of lessening the Severity of Punishment.

A Sense of all these Difficulties has produced a Conviction on the Minds of many intelligent Persons, as well in Foreign Countries as in England, that no System of Prison Discipline can be effectual which does not provide for the entire Separation of every Prisoner from the others, or for the Preservation of Silence among them when necessarily or occasionally congregated for Work or Exercise.

A System founded upon this Principle is susceptible of several Modifications, which have been tried in various Prisons of England and America.

Your Committee will consider these Modifications one by one.

1. Absolute solitary Confinement by Night and Day without Employment. This is assuredly a severe Punishment; it excludes the Possibility of Contamination or of Associations for evil Purposes, and in Cases in which there is a Susceptibility of Moral Amendment it affords the best Opportunity of effecting it.

But at present solitary Confinement is generally used in Devonshire only as an Aggravation of Punishment; except in very trifling Cases it is not inflicted for more than a Part of the Term of Imprisonment, and is therefore entirely inefficacious as a Separation.

The Courts have acted upon the Belief that solitary Confinement cannot be borne, for many consecutive Weeks, with Safety to the Body or Mind of the Prisoner; but there is much Difference of Opinion upon this Point, some Persons being of opinion, founded upon Experience, that solitary Confinement, without Employment or without any Occupation but that of reading, may be borne for Three or even Six or more Months.

2. In

2. In order to make solitary Confinement endurable for a long Period it is in several Methods connected with hard Labour. *W. Courtenay, Esq.*

One Method is to permit the Prisoners, at other Times kept in Solitude, to work in Gangs or on the Tread-wheel, but to enforce the most perfect Silence by the instant Application of the Lash upon him who utters a single Word.

This Method necessarily requires numerous, vigilant, and judicious Superintendents.

It has been tried in the United States of America with some Success at first, but, according to recent Information, has been abused and discontinued.

Your Committee are too well satisfied of the Indisposition of the Devonshire Magistrates to adopt this Plan, to think it necessary to consider it further.

3. Another Plan is similar to that last mentioned, except in the Mode of enforcing Silence; this is done by Punishments more consistent with the ordinary Rules of Discipline in English Prisons; namely, by the Deprivation of Meals and solitary Confinement of the severest Class, that is, in a dark Cell. This Plan has been adopted with good Effect at Huntingdon.

Separation and Silence have also been adopted at Worcester (where all the Day-rooms have been converted into single Cells) and elsewere.

4. Another Plan is to compel the Prisoner to work in his solitary Cell, which he inhabits Day and Night.

In the House of Correction at Springfield, in the County of Essex, the Prisoners are required to turn a Wheel 1,000 Times in an Hour, and are punished for any Deficiency.

Your Committee are not aware why the very disagreeable Operation of picking Oakum should not be imposed upon Prisoners in Solitude.

5. Another possible Modification, not tried, so far as your Committee are informed, in any English Prison, which is, not to require Work from solitary Prisoners, but to afford them Facilities of employing themselves.

6. In some Gaols (as at Gloucester and Bedford) the Object of Separation in Labour is effected by a Division of the Wheel into single Compartments, but there are Doubts whether the Closeness occasioned by the necessary Screen be not injurious to Health.

These several Schemes all contemplate the Confinement of each Prisoner in a separate Cell by Day and Night, except when working at a Tread-wheel or other joint Labour (where joint Labour is adopted), or exercised in such Manner as to avoid Communication; and all the Schemes imply the Abolition of Day-rooms and of joint Meals or Cookery; but in some Prisons, Parts only of the System have been adopted, and the single sleeping Cells are not universal.

At Devizes an Attempt is made to subdivide each Class into the greater and less Offenders.

To some of these your Committee would only refer (for instance, Wilton, Somersetshire,) as exhibiting the Possibility of maintaining Silence among Prisoners at work, observing, that unless Separation or Silence be preserved throughout the Twenty-four Hours the Objects of the System are not accomplished.

7. In one remarkable Instance the System of Silence and virtual Separation has been found consistent with the Association of the Prisoners in Day-rooms. At the House of Correction at Wakefield, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, the Prisoners are, except when the House is excessively crowded, confined each in a separate Cell at Night; they are not in solitary Confinement during the Day, but it is a Rule of the Prison, sanctioned by the Judges of Assize, that no Prisoner shall be permitted, on any Account or under any Pretence, to speak to or hold any Communications with any other Prisoner, without special Leave for that Purpose first obtained from the Governor. And it appears that Silence is enforced among Prisoners even while walking about together.

Your Committee understand that it is the Wish of the Magistrates of the West Riding to abolish the Day-rooms, but in the meantime, by the Employment of a considerable Number of Wardsmen, and the Enforcement of this Rule, the Objects of Separation and Solitude are in a great Degree accomplished. It is, however, to be remarked, that no Attempt has been hitherto made to enforce Silence among the Female Prisoners.

This Rule against Communication is applied at Wakefield to the untried as well as convicted Prisoners.

With respect to the Class of untried, your Committee will here observe, that it has been usual in the Gaol to give to unconvicted Prisoners the Gaol Allowance of Food, an Allowance which the Law appears to contemplate in special Cases only. Your Committee are of opinion that Employment of some Sort should be found for untried Prisoners.

The Magistrates are already aware that the Separation of the several Classes in the Chapels is incomplete, and that the Prisoners, contrary to the Opinion of several competent Persons as to the Operation of the Gaol Act, hear Divine Service only once on the Sunday. The Consequence is, that a great Part of the Sunday is spent in Idleness.

Without giving any Opinion upon the particular Mode of meeting these Objects, which has been already before the Sessions, your Committee conceive that the more complete Separation in the Chapel, and the Performance of Two Sunday Services, ought to be kept in view in adopting any Measures for improving Prison Discipline.

Your Committee have to add, that it appears from the Papers before them, that the Secretary of State for the Home Department has turned a favourable Attention to the System of Separation and Silence; and the Chairman of this Committee has it in his Power

W. Courtenay, Esq.

to confirm this Fact from personal Communication with one of the Under Secretaries. And while this Report has been in preparation it has been announced that His Majesty's Government have the whole Subject of Secondary Punishment and Prison Discipline under Consideration.

On Consideration of all the Information which they have received of the successful Operation of the new System, your Committee are of opinion that the absolute Separation of the Prisoners one from another, and the Preservation of entire Silence, are Objects which it is extremely desirable to effect, and that with these Views it is desirable to abolish the Day-rooms altogether, to put an End to joint Cookery, and to prohibit all Conversation among the Prisoners.

But while your Committee are of opinion that the Separation of Prisoners is a most desirable Object of Prison Discipline, and best calculated to effect both the Reformation of the Offender and the ultimate Diminution of Crime, yet it appears to them that no one improved Plan of Prison Discipline has yet been practised for a Time sufficiently long satisfactorily to determine its relative Superiority.

The Subject of Prison Discipline has for many Years past received a considerable Share of Public Attention; the Governments, both of France and England, have sent out Persons for the express Purpose of visiting the new Prisons of America.

The Report of the Gentleman employed by the English Government is not yet published, but there is Reason to hope that some Steps will at no distant Period be taken with a view to the general Improvement of Prison Discipline.

Although your Committee have not yet received accurate Estimates from the Surveyor, it is clear that the Alterations of the Gaol and Bridewell, which would be necessary in order to carry the System contemplated by your Committee into Practice, could not be effected without the Expenditure of a very large Sum of Money; nor is it probable that the System could be effectual without an Addition to the Number of Turnkeys and Superintendents. In the present distressed State of Agriculture, after the large Sums so lately expended in the Completion of the County Prisons, with a Prospect of more Information on the Subject, and in the Expectation of some general Plan to be introduced by the Government, your Committee cannot feel justified in recommending at the present Moment an Outlay of the necessary Magnitude.

It will be for the Magistrates to reconsider the Subject from Time to Time, as fresh Information is obtained, and as the Plans of Government are developed; but in the meantime they recommend the Adoption of certain Rules which may enable them to accomplish, without Expense, some of the Objects contemplated in their Report.

And therefore they suggest—

1. That a Rule for the Observance of Silence, as far as practicable, and among convicted Prisoners, similar to that adopted in the West Riding of Yorkshire, be made and submitted to the Judges at the ensuing Assizes.

2. That the Keeper of the Gaol be enjoined to enforce this Rule, and that he do apply from Time to Time to the Visiting Justices for such further Assistance as may be necessary for that Purpose.

3. That no Friends of convicted Prisoners shall be admitted except under the written Order of a Magistrate, and then not more frequently than once in a Month, unless by express Permission from a Visiting Magistrate, stating in Writing the peculiar Circumstances and Causes for such Visit, to be entered in the Governor's Journal; and that all such Visits shall be in the Presence of the Keeper or some other Officer of the Prison.

4. That a Book shall be kept in which the Names of all Persons admitted to visit the Prisoners, together with their Calling and Address, and also the Names of the Prisoners visited, and the Days of Admission, shall be entered.

5. That convicted Prisoners shall not be allowed to write to their Friends more than once in every Month, unless by special Permission of a Visiting Justice.

To His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Devon, assembled at their Easter Quarter Sessions, held at the Castle of Exeter on the 7th of April 1835.

Gentlemen,

I have the Honour to report to the Bench, that during the Quarter from the last Epiphany Sessions the Conduct of the Prisoners has been peaceable and orderly, with the Exception of a few minor Irregularities, which were corrected and punished as they occurred.

The lately-adopted Regulations with regard to Silence in the House of Correction have been duly attended to as far as practicable, and the Mode of dieting directed by the Visiting Magistrates as to the Felons and Vagrants taking their Meals in the Cells, solitary and in Silence, has been strictly enforced, and with good Effect; they are also marched to their Cells and locked up as soon as their daily Labour is over, never entering the Day-rooms. With respect to the convicted Misdemeanors, the most rigid Silence possible is enforced, but their Numbers still preclude the Possibility of their taking their Meals or sleeping separately in their Cells.

In the Gaol I beg to report that Silence is also enforced as much as possible, even by the Prisoners before Trial, and, in my humble Opinion, with very good Effect.

On the other Side I give my usual Statement of Commitments as compared with the corresponding Quarter of last Year; and I have the Pleasure to remark that there is a considerable Decrease in both Prisons in the present Quarter, viz In the Gaol 37, and in the

291

the House of Correction 52, making in the whole a Decrease of 89 in the Quarter; and it is at the same Time satisfactory to observe that the Decrease has been principally in the Two worst Classes, viz. the Felons in the Gaol, and the Vagrants in the House of Correction. *W. Courtenay, Esq.*

I have the Honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
WM. COLE.

I hereby certify, That the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Prisons have been duly complied with.

WM. COLE.

7th April 1835.

STATEMENT of the COMMITMENTS from the EPIPHANY to the EASTER SESSIONS 1835, as compared with the corresponding Quarter of last Year.

Gaol.

Committed from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1834	Felons - 111 Misdemeanors 45 Smugglers - 10 Game Laws - 10		176
Ditto from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1835	Felons - 94 Misdemeanors 36 Smugglers - 6 Game Laws - 3		139
Ditto from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1834	Males - - 149 Females - 27		176
Ditto from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1835	Males - - 114 Females - 25		139
Number in the Gaol at the Easter Sessions - -	1834	Males - - 65 Females - 14		79
Ditto - - - Ditto - -	1835	Males - - 52 Females - 16		68
Highest Number at any one Time in the Gaol since last Sessions - -				118
Lowest Ditto - Ditto - - Ditto - - -				65

House of Correction.

Committed from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1834	Felons - 9 Misdemeanors 85 Game Laws - 5 Vagrants - 74		173
Ditto from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1835	Felons - - 2 Misdemeanors 64 Game Laws - 6 Vagrants - 49		121
Ditto from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1834	Males - - 149 Females - 24		173
Ditto from the Epiphany to the Easter Sessions	1835	Males - - 107 Females - 14		121
Number in the House of Correction, Easter Sessions	1834	Males - - 118 Females - 21		139
Ditto - - - Ditto -	1835	Males - - 93 Females - 16		109
Highest Number at any one Time since last Sessions - - - -				159
Lowest Ditto - - Ditto - - - - - -				88

WM. COLE.

When I was at the last Easter Quarter Sessions I talked particularly with the Governor of our Gaol, Mr. Cole, and I satisfied myself by Conversation with him, that so far as we have had any Opportunity of trying the Experiment of enforcing Silence it had answered extremely well; that he found it very possible to enforce Silence without the Use of any other than the ordinary Punishment of taking away Meals and shortening the Meals, and visiting any Breach of the Regulation immediately by solitary Confinement. The Rules, amongst which is one that authorizes him to enforce Silence in that Way, were

W. Courtenay, Esq.

submitted to the Judges, and approved by them, and they have been acted upon in that Prison the last Three or Four Months with very good Effect; and the Governor tells me that what they call technically Re-commitments, that is, the Commitments of Persons that go in and out, as the Vagrants particularly, have been very much fewer; that some useful Alterations which have been made in the Dietary, connected with the Enforcement of Silence, have made Imprisonment in our Devonshire Prison very disagreeable; and the Consequence has been, that in that Class with whom it may be considered to a certain Degree optional whether they come or not, the Reduction has been considerable.

The Opinion of the Visiting Magistrates of that Prison is, that the System of Silence has been very beneficial?

Undoubtedly; it is of course imperfect with us, as it must always be 'till there has been a considerable Expenditure of Money to provide a greater Number of separate Cells, so as to do away altogether with the Day-rooms. The System cannot be completed without a great Alteration of that Prison, and, I suppose, of most other Prisons.

Are there Compartments upon the Tread-wheel?

I think not.

Do not you think it would be desirable that there should be Compartments so as to prevent the Prisoners from speaking to each other upon the Tread-wheel?

That was thought of, but Objections were stated, whether well-founded or not I cannot undertake to say, that it made the Place extremely close and prejudicial to Health. I asked him particularly whether they could converse upon the Tread-mill, and he said, that, so far as he could judge, Silence was effectually preserved there; that an Officer was always attending; and he has made it his Business to go in at unexpected Times, and, as far as he could judge, he thought Silence was, upon the whole, very well preserved.

As an old Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, are you not of opinion that it would be very desirable that one uniform System of Discipline should prevail in all the Prisons in the Country?

I conceive it to be of the greatest Importance, for I believe that in the Three Prisons of the Three Counties with which I am most acquainted, which lie contiguous, viz. Cornwall, Devonshire, and Somersetshire, the Want of Uniformity of Discipline in the Three Prisons has led, at One Time, to one Prison being full, and at other Times to another being full, according as the Regulations of the respective Prisons varied.

Would it be desirable, in order to secure Uniformity of Discipline, that Inspectors of Prisons should be appointed to visit the Prisons, and report to the Secretary of State?

I should think so.

From your Knowledge of the Opinions of the Magistrates, do you believe that they would think it very beneficial?

I am sure that the Magistrates with whom I am connected would think it very beneficial, and would be glad to co-operate in any Plan of that Sort, provided it did not tend to increase the Amount of local Taxation, which is already felt to be very burdensome.

Do you think that, with a view of insuring Uniformity of Discipline, the Rules and Regulations of the Prisons should be submitted to the Secretary of State, instead of, as at present, to the Judge of Assize?

The only Advantage of their being submitted to the Judge of Assize is that he has an Opportunity of inquiring for more particular Information upon the Spot; but it would tend to produce more Uniformity of Discipline if they were submitted to some other Authority.

Would not the Secretary of State have the Power, before he sanctioned one uniform System, to obtain the Advice and Assistance of the Judges?

Undoubtedly he would.

Would they not in London, meeting together for that express Purpose, be much

much more likely to be enabled to turn their Attention to the Subject, than in the Hurry and Confusion of an Assize Town?

I should think they would; and there would be this additional Advantage, that they could consult together. The Committee is aware, of course, from the Inquiries they are pursuing, that the Question of Money is one of the great Difficulties that all Magistrates, desirous of enforcing Prison Discipline, have to encounter. Almost all the Prisons require Alteration, to make them capable of containing Prisoners under the best System.

Do not you think that it is a necessary Expense for the Country, and that it is the Duty of the State to take care that Persons should not go out of Prison worse than when they were committed to Prison?

One of your Lordships on this Committee knows that in the House of Commons I took a great deal of Interest upon the Subject, having been Chairman of a Committee which sat for a long Time upon Prison Discipline, and I have never ceased to feel very strongly that it is an important Duty upon the Country in general, and upon the Government, to provide the Means of managing Prisons well, so that Prisoners should not suffer more than the Law imposes upon them by way of Punishment; and, above all, that Prisoners of a minor Degree of Guilt should not be confounded with those who are more hardened.

Does not it appear unfair that those Counties that have obeyed the Law, and have made their Prisons in accordance to the Provisions of the Gaol Act, should be taxed more than the other Counties which have disobeyed the Law?

I have always felt that this, and perhaps many other Expenses which are practically thrown upon the County Revenues, are of a Nature that more properly belong to the general Expenditure of the Country; and that the Country at large, not only has an Interest, but has a Duty, in seeing that the Prisons generally are well conducted.

It is doubtless your Opinion that the Improvement of Prisons, and of the Discipline within the Prisons, will tend to diminish Crime in a great Degree, and render Commitments less frequent. Do not you think that the Diminution of Crime by those Means may be to so great an Extent as to repay the Counties for the Expense of the Improvement in the Construction of their Prisons?

That is a Question upon which it seems to me impossible to form any thing like an accurate Calculation, or to state to what Extent the Saving may go; but I cannot doubt that some Saving, and that to a considerable Extent, would be obtained by making the Punishment of Imprisonment more effectual, and thereby making Occasions for Imprisonment less frequent; and I think, also, enabling Judges and Magistrates to shorten the Duration of Time for which Imprisonment is to take place.

Is not the Effect of the Want of Uniformity of Discipline now, and the bad Construction of many of the Prisons, a very serious Injury to the Community at large?

I have always felt it so.

It appears, by a Return upon the Table, that, in the County of Northumberland, they have only a Chaplain to One of their Houses of Correction, whereas by the Evidence received before this Committee it appears that in the County of Sussex their Prisons have Chaplains, Schoolmasters, and separate Cells for every Prisoner; the Effect of this is, therefore, that the Sussex Ratepayer is taxed to a much greater Extent for the Prisons than the Ratepayer in the County of Northumberland: is it fair or just that those who have obeyed the Laws should pay more than those who have set the Laws at defiance?

It appears to me that the Unfairness arising from that and similar Circumstances affords a very strong Ground for thinking that a great Portion of the Expenditure ought to be the general Expenditure of the Country, and also for the Opinion that there ought to be a Uniformity of Discipline in the different Prisons.

Do you think it important that the Chaplains of the Prisons should devote the whole of their Time to the Duties of the Prisons?

I think that must depend upon the Size of the Prison. It is certainly extremely

W. Courtenay, Esq.

extremely important that the Chaplain should devote as much Time as will enable him, not only to perform the ordinary Services of the Church, but to give that Sort of Attention to the individual Prisoners which, both in a Religious and a Moral Point of view, it is necessary that they should receive; but I think it must depend upon so many local Circumstances, whether it is absolutely necessary that he should devote his whole Time, that I can hardly say that I have formed an Opinion that they ought in all Cases to do that. Perhaps I may be allowed to take this Opportunity of saying, that there exists among Magistrates a Difference of Opinion as to the Construction of the Gaol Act with reference to the Attendance of Prisoners upon Divine Service. Your Lordships will observe in the Report of the Devonshire Magistrates that is touched upon. A Question has arisen, whether it is necessary, under the Provisions of that Act, that every Prisoner should have an Opportunity of going both to Morning and Evening Service on the Sunday. Some Magistrates have held that it was sufficient if Provision is made for all the Prisoners attending Divine Service once,—that there should be Service performed twice in the Prison, but that Arrangements should be made so that some Prisoners should attend one Service, and other Prisoners attend the other. Other Magistrates have held that they were bound to attend both, according to the Provisions of the Act. I mention this, that if any Bill should be passed, this is a Point which it might be desirable to settle.

Can the Prisoners in separate Cells hear each other?

I am afraid they can.

Do you know whether any Calculation has been made of what the Expense would be of providing Cells of such Thickness that the Prisoners could not hear each other?

I am not aware of any.

Do you think that Prisoners under Sentence of Imprisonment for Six Calendar Months should be permitted to receive Visits from their Friends, unless under special Circumstances. ?

I certainly should limit it very much indeed, and I think to Cases in which either from Illness or from other Circumstances it would be cruel to forbid it. I am satisfied that the shutting out the Prisoners from Intercourse with the World generally is a very efficient Part of Punishment.

Do they allow in your House of Correction the Prisoners under Sentence to receive Luxuries from without?

Not now; Improvements have been made of late in that respect.

Are they allowed to smoke?

With regard to smoking we had a very odd Discussion. Some of the Magistrates and myself were very anxious to forbid it altogether, but our Surgeon made a Report that some Prisoners, particularly those who came from the Customs, and who have been connected with the Sea in any way, would suffer in their Health if they were forbidden the Use of Tobacco; but I know that it is very much limited, if not altogether restricted; and I am satisfied, that if a Restriction of that Sort of Indulgence is shown, as I believe it may be shown, to be perfectly consistent with Health, it would be one very great Improvement, and it would be very much disliked by the Prisoners.

Mr. Courtenay withdraws.

Lord Carbery.

The Right Honourable the Lord CARBERY, a Member of the Committee, is examined as follows:

You are aware that the Prisons in Ireland formerly were in a very bad State?

Very well aware of it.

Have they been much improved of late Years?

Very much indeed since the Gaol Act was obtained, those that I am acquainted with.

The Irish Gaol Act authorized the Appointment of Inspectors of Prisons and of Local Inspectors?

Yes, there were Two; the First Act authorized the Appointment of One

Lord Carbery.

Inspector General; he was not found sufficient; and then the next Act, which was the 7th Geo. 4. Cap. 54., empowers the Lord Lieutenant to appoint Two Inspectors General; and there are Local Inspectors besides.

Do you think that the Appointment of Inspectors has been attended with very great Benefit to the Prisons which you have seen?
Certainly.

Do you believe that that is the Opinion generally of the Public in Ireland?
I know it is, from having, before I succeeded to the Peerage, been one of those Committees in the County of Cork, where I resided, and we were all satisfied of the Benefit of those Inspectors.

Is there an uniform System of Discipline in the Irish Prisons?
There ought to be, because there is One Gaol Act, but whether it is carried into effect I cannot say. In Cork they have gone great Lengths towards that, as far as the Gaol would admit of it.

Mr. THOMAS AGER is called in, and examined as follows:

Mr. Thomas Ager.

You are the Governor of Maidstone Gaol?
I am.

How long have you been the Governor?
Nearly Fourteen Years.

It is the County Gaol and House of Correction?
It is.

Is Silence enacted in your Prison?
At all Times when the Prisoners are at work.

Are there Divisions or Compartments upon your Tread-wheels?
There are.

Does that prevent their communicating with each other when upon the Wheel?
It prevents the Classes from communicating.

There are not individual Compartments, but only Compartments for separate Classes?
That is all.

Are you of opinion that an uniform System of Prison Discipline ought to be enacted for every Prison in the Country?
I should think it is very desirable.

Have you Day-rooms?
We have, for every Class.

Do you think that the permitting Prisoners to associate together in Day-rooms has the Effect of contaminating those that are comparatively innocent, from the Language and Conversation of the more depraved Prisoners?
It is impossible to prevent it in the Way they are placed in the Wards, if they are disposed to become bad Characters.

Do you believe that unfortunately too many quit the Prison worse than when they were committed?
I do not know; every possible Pains is taken with them.

Still, so long as they are permitted to have free Intercourse one with another in the Day-room, is not it very difficult to prevent Contamination?
It is very difficult, no Doubt; but I have observed, that where they have been disposed to avoid the bad Characters they had an Opportunity of doing so, and in many Instances I have seen Men that have done that. We have in Maidstone Gaol Four Classes of untried Prisoners; we put those for Capital Offences by themselves; those for minor Offences by themselves in another Ward; the Re-committals have a Ward by themselves, and the Juveniles have a Ward also; so that they are as much separated as it is possible.

Mr. Thomas Ager.

And the same with the Females?
They are separated; the Felonies are altogether. We have Four Classes of Felonies among the Male Prisoners, but only One for the Females.

A Woman that is charged with a Misdemeanor is placed in the Class of Female Misdemeanants?
Yes.

But it is very possible that that Woman may have been before convicted of Felony?
It is possible, and that has frequently happened.

By the Gaol Act you are not bound to have a Class for Re-committals; and where you have not Room for such a Class, are you obliged to place a Prisoner, convicted before of Felony, but at the Time under Charge for a Misdemeanor, with the Misdemeanants, though she may be much more depraved than many of the Felons in the Prison?
No Doubt it is the Case.

Is it not the Case that very often Persons of the worst Character are tried for Misdemeanors, having been sufficiently clever to avoid Detection for the greater Offence?
Yes.

And therefore the present Gaol Act does not insure that Classification which would prevent the most abandoned Characters from associating with those comparatively innocent?
No; it cannot be done by Wards; it can only be done by means of Cells; there are so many Characters of different Descriptions to be selected, that it would require a great many Cells.

It appears that in the Year ending Michaelmas 1834 you had 453 separate Cells, and that the largest Number of Prisoners in that Year at One Time was 533?
Yes.

Do you think it would be very desirable, wherever it is practicable, that Prisoners, both before and after Trial, should sleep in separate Cells?
We always sleep them in separate Cells; we have separate Cells for every Person, except sometimes, which happens very rarely, when the Numbers run beyond that.

It appears that it must have happened in the course of last Year, inasmuch as there were 533 Prisoners and only 453 Cells?
Yes; the Women sleep Three in a Cell; and that Number includes the Debtors, and there are Three in some of their Cells; so that it leaves Room to make a separate sleeping Cell for each Criminal Prisoner.

Do you think it most desirable that there should be separate Cells for every Criminal Prisoner?
I should think most decidedly; you can keep Order much better.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to receive Visits from their Friends, in Maidstone?
Those convicted of Felony can only receive their Friends by an Order from the Visiting Justices; the Misdemeanants are allowed to see their Friends by an Order from a Magistrate.

Do you find that the Visiting Magistrates give many Orders to the Friends of the Felons?
The Prisoner is examined; the Visiting Justice makes Inquiry as to the Conduct of the Prisoner, and if he has conducted himself well the Magistrate gives him an Order to see his Friends; they put it in the Minute Book that such a Prisoner has Permission to see his Friends, but they only allow it once in Four Months.

Are the Magistrates of the County in the habit of giving many Orders for permitting the Friends of Misdemeanants to visit them?
Not very many.

What

297

Mr. Thomas Ager.

What is the Object of the Distinction between Misdemeanants and Felons with respect to granting Permission to see their Friends?

Felony is considered a much higher Offence than Misdemeanor.

Is it in fact always so; for instance, a Boy for stealing Three Apples, which is a Felony, would not be so great an Offender as a Man who is committed to the Prison for an unnatural Assault?

No, but there must be some Rule laid down. With respect to Felons, no one can give them an Order except a Visiting Justice, and he does that upon the Application of the Prisoner.

Are there not as great Rogues among the Misdemeanants as there are among the Felons?

No Doubt that is the Case.

Is it not as necessary to keep those Prisoners from Communication with their Friends as it is with regard to the Felons?

I should think it is; many of them are for very bad Offences; many of them for passing counterfeit Coin, and for aggravated Assaults.

Then the Principle of the Distinction between the different Prisoners with respect to seeing their Friends is according to the Class of their Crime, and not according to their Character?

Yes; I am speaking of convicted Prisoners now.

If a Man had been in your Custody for a Felony under Sentence for Six Months, and discharged, and brought back again to you, and found guilty of a Misdemeanor, he would be enabled to receive Visits from his Friends by an Order from the Magistrates, in consequence of having been convicted of a Misdemeanor, though he had been formerly convicted of a Felony?

Precisely.

In your Opinion would it tend to the Moral Improvement of the Prisoners, and to the Discipline of the Prison, if no convicted Prisoner, unless under very special Circumstances, whose Sentence of Imprisonment did not exceed Six Calendar Months, should be prohibited from receiving Visits or Letters from his Friends?

Of course it would enhance his Punishment very much.

Do not these constant Visits of Friends take up the Time of the Officers of the Prison?

We have not many Prisoners that receive Visits, except those from Maidstone Town; those coming from different Parts of the County their Friends cannot conveniently come to see them often. We are seldom crowded with Visitors to Prisoners, except just at the Sessions and the Assize Time.

The Officers in your Prison receive no Part of the Prisoners Earnings?

None whatever.

Do you think that the Visits of the Friends to the Prisoners have a Tendency to unsettle the Minds of the Prisoners?

No, I do not think that. The Way they are seen in our Gaol is, that there are Visiting-rooms, or at least Three Divisions; they are not permitted to come into the Prison,—only just within the Gateway, and the Prisoner is at the End, and a Turnkey places himself in the Middle, so that every Word that passes can be heard.

You have no Security that those Persons are not the Confederates of the Prisoners?

We always examine them; and any Prisoner that has been discharged from Gaol within Six Months we never allow to see another Prisoner.

That Regulation is for the Security of the Gaol?

Precisely.

Do you think that the Keepers of the Prisons in this Country in general would prefer having a fixed Salary, and an Allowance for travelling, in lieu of receiving Part of the Prisoners Earnings?

I should say, certainly; it must take his Attention off his Duties in looking to his own Interests in that Kind of Way.

Mr. Thomas Ager.

Do you appoint Prisoners Wardsmen or Monitors?
One Wardsman for every Ward.

Do you select the Wardsman from the same Class?
One of the same Class.

Do you think you can trust to the Wardsmen, that they will report any Irregularities which may occur?
We have always found them very particular in discharging their Duties; if they omit any thing ever so trivial they are punished for it.

Do you select them for their Moral Character, or for their peculiar Fitness for the Office?
There are many Prisoners in the Gaol who are disabled by some Cause or other from going to hard Labour; I mean convicted Felons or Misdemeanants; and we appoint them, if we have such Men; they are examined by the Surgeon, and he reports them unfit, and we make use as much as we can of those People.

Do you appoint them without Reference to their Moral Character?
No; we are very particular about that; if any Man had been guilty of an abominable Offence he would not be appointed Wardsman, or a Re-committal for Felony.

What Advantage have the Wardsmen over the other Prisoners?
Where there are very long Wards with a great many Prisoners, the Magistrates allow them 9*d.* a Week, and for the short Wards 6*d.* a Week; and they receive that on their Discharge.

Do you permit Prisoners under Sentence to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?
Certainly not convicted Prisoners, except convicted Misdemeanants; they may maintain themselves.

If they do not maintain themselves, do you allow them to receive any Luxuries from their Friends?
Nothing whatever; no Prisoner whatever; not the Debtors even.

Do you allow any smoking in the Prison, with the Exception of the Debtors Side?
None.

Are you of opinion that Prisoners under Sentence should be prohibited from receiving any Luxuries from without the Prison?
Certainly; it is a Thing that has never been permitted in Maidstone Gaol.

Do you allow the Prisoners for Trial to smoke?
No.

Do you allow them Beer?
Prisoners for Trial who maintain themselves are allowed to buy Two Pints of Beer a Day, but we never let them take it into the Wards; they seldom take more than a Pint, and that they take at the Bar, so as not to be carried into the Wards.

Where do the Prisoners that maintain themselves purchase their Provisions?
It is put upon a Slate, and hung up, and a Shopman comes, and brings what is wanted, and the Turnkey takes it into the Wards.

You do not permit any Turnkey, or any Relation of a Turnkey, to sell any thing to the Prisoners in the Prison?
Nothing of the Sort.

And you do not allow the Wardsman to let Bedding or any thing else to the Prisoners?
No, nothing of the Sort.

You have a Chaplain at Maidstone Gaol?
Yes.

Does he devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prison?
He is restricted from any other Duty.

What

What is his Salary?
£260 a Year. He reads Prayers every Morning when the Prisoners are assembled, and long Prayers on Wednesday and Friday, and gives Two Sermons on Sunday.

Does he visit the Prisoners privately in their Cells?
He does every Day.

Have you a Schoolmaster?
Yes; there is a Schoolmaster placed under the Superintendence of the Chaplain.

Is he a Prisoner?
He is not.

What is his Salary?
Twelve Shillings a Week; and he officiates as Chapel Clerk in addition.

You said that the Provisions for the untried Prisoners are furnished by a Shopman?
Yes; and sometimes their Friends may bring in a few Articles.

Is a particular Shopman appointed to supply the Prisoners?
There is one appointed.

Who appoints him?
I appoint him; and if the Prisoners have any Complaint to make, of course it is attended to. The Supply of Provisions to Prisoners in our Gaol is a very trivial Thing; sometimes, just before the Assizes or the Sessions commence, they amount to about Twenty.

Have you any Persons in your Custody who have been acquitted upon the Ground of Insanity?
No; we always report them immediately afterwards to the Secretary of State, and get an Order for Removal.

What has become of Robert Harham?
He was sent to a Lunatic Asylum, and he has since died.

Do not you think it very inconvenient to the Discipline of Prisons that Lunatic Persons should be confined in them instead of being removed to the Lunatic Asylums?
Certainly, there being no proper Convenience in the Gaol for them.

Have you had many Soldiers committed of late Years to your Custody?
I have had a great Number under Sentence of Courts-martial.

Principally from Chatham?
Principally from Chatham; some from Woolwich, and some from the Depôt at Maidstone.

Do the Magistrates of the County complain of the Number of Soldiers committed to Maidstone?
They have made several Representations to the Secretary of State of the Inconvenience that arises from the great Number of Soldiers.

Do they have the same Allowance as the other Prisoners?
They have the Tread-mill Allowance when they work at the Tread-mill.

And you are paid 6*d.* a Day for them by the War Office?
Yes.

What is the greatest Number you have had at one Time?
Between Seventy and Eighty; I think I have now Sixty-four; Forty-eight for hard Labour, and Sixteen for solitary Confinement.

Are they not very difficult Men to manage?
They require a great deal of looking after to keep them in Order.

Did they not some Time since show a great Tendency to mutiny?
They did.

If those Soldiers were removed from Maidstone Prison it would enable you to put all the Prisoners of the County in separate Cells?
We have Cells enough now to keep them all separate.

Mr. Thomas Ager.

Do the Magistrates feel that it is a Hardship on the County that Cells should be provided at their Expense for Soldiers under Sentence of Courts-martial ?
It is a very inconvenient Thing altogether for the Prison.

The Soldiers are subject to the same Discipline as the other Prisoners ?
Just the same.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned 'till To-morrow, Ten o'Clock.

Die Lunæ, 11° *Maii* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Lieutenant JOHN SIBLY, R. N., Governor of the House of Correction at Brixton, is called in, and further examined as follows:

Evidence on Gaols.

Lieut. J. Sibly, R.N.

Have you any thing further to state?

I respectfully beg to invite the Attention of your Lordships Committee to the Offer which I have made at the End of my former Papers, and which I omitted doing at the Time of my delivering them in. My Offer is, that if the Legislature shall decide on permitting an Experiment to be made on the System of modified solitary Confinement which I have recommended, so perfect is my Conviction of its Success that I offer to superintend it as Governor for Two or Three Years without Salary, which shall be left to the Consideration of Parliament after the Trial. I also beg to submit to your Lordships the accompanying Sketch and Description of a Building which I consider as best adapted to the System which I have the Honour to recommend, and a few Observations on Mr. Crawford's excellent Report on the Discipline of the American Penitentiaries.

The same are delivered in, and inspected, and are as follow:

My LORDS, Brixton House of Correction, 8th May 1835.

Since I had the Honour to be examined before your Lordships Committee I have been fortunate enough to procure Mr. Crawford's excellent Report on the American Penitentiaries, on which I am anxious to offer a few Observations. I am emboldened to submit these Remarks, not more by the Manner in which your Lordships were pleased to receive my former Papers, and the Opening afforded to me in the event of my desiring to be re-examined, than by the Confidence which I feel at finding my Ideas on Prison Discipline so fully borne out and confirmed by this Report.

The different Circumstances of a Nation will produce much Difference of Opinion as to the best Means of carrying on a System of Prison Discipline, but the great End thereof will be the same in all Countries. The principal Features of American Prison Discipline inapplicable to Great Britain are, 1st, the Severity of the Punishments by the Use of the Whip; 2d, the long Sentences for which the Prisoners are confined in these Prisons; 3d, their maintaining themselves, and even sometimes returning a Profit; 4th, the imperfect Arrangements for Religious Instruction.

The Report most nobly and unhesitatingly rejects the Discipline carried on at the great Prisons of Auburn, Sing Sing, and others, where the Lash exists in all its Horrors; the debasing Influence of the System is eloquently exposed, and pronounced to be totally inadmissible in this Country; while that of solitary Labour, as practised in the Pennsylvanian Penitentiaries, is warmly applauded. The Evidence there afforded of the Efficacy of the latter Punishment, of the Dread it inspires, of the Temper and Dispositions of the Prisoners, of the Safety with which solitary Confinement may be inflicted, and of its Tendency to promote Reformation, cannot be strengthened by any Reasoning of mine; it will not fail to impart to every Well-wisher of Society the most lively Gratification, and at once to dispel every Doubt as to the Propriety of its being immediately introduced into Great Britain.

The long Confinements inflicted in the American Prisons are inapplicable to this Country, which, having a redundant Population, can, without impairing the Energy of the State, afford to dispense with Offenders, who are therefore transported Abroad. Few of the Prisoners in our Prisons are sentenced to more than a Year's Confinement, while the great Mass are for Terms very far less; the whole of their Imprisonment should therefore be the more strictly devoted to Reformation, and the Separation should be the more rigidly observed, in order that the incessant Intercourse which the Vagrant Act and the minor Offences occasion in our Gaols and Houses of Correction should not disseminate their Contagion so widely as to taint the whole Body of the Society of the Poor.

Another great Feature in American Prisons is the Ability which they have of maintaining themselves, in consequence of the Demand for manual Labour. In a widely extended and infant Country like America this may be done, but no adequate Return can be made from Prison Labour in England. The long Confinements in America enable them first to teach a

Lieut. J. Sibly, R.N.

Prisoner a Trade, and afterwards to turn it to profitable Account; but here, if the Prisoners were instructed in Trades, it must be at a continual Loss, for they would scarcely have become decent Workmen when the Time would arrive for their Discharge. The Instructors Wages and the Materials will cost more than the Value of the Articles, and especially in the smaller Prisons, where few Persons would probably be employed in each Trade. There can however be no Difficulty in allowing Prisoners to pick Oakum, or to have some other simple Employment, if thought desirable, for the longer Fines especially, but it must be looked at merely in the Light of Alleviation to the Punishment, and not with a view to Profit.

I have to notice the imperfect Manner in which Religious Instruction is afforded in the American Prisons. This is indeed a glaring Impropriety, and attaches to the Construction of the Prisons as well as to their Government; but it is one which arises out of the Demand for and the Productiveness of Labour. As in England we have no such Demand, the Prisoners Time can never be spent more profitably than by receiving Instruction during the whole of their short Sentences, and no Situation can conduce so much to its early and effectual Reception as solitary Confinement.

Amidst so many, so just, and such mighty Commendations of the Pennsylvanian System, it has, however, much surprised me to find that the Writer should have been induced, from Motives of Expediency, to recommend to the Government the System of associated Labour as practised in the Penitentiary at Wethersfield. It is with confessed Regret that he introduces this Recommendation; as indeed how can it be otherwise, when it destroys so many of the best Principles on which the solitary System is founded. The Advantages attendant on the Separation of Prisoners can never be better described than in the Words of Mr. Crawford himself (Report, Pages 12 and 14); and the Impossibility of wholly preventing Conversation, even by the uncontrolled Application of the Lash, as evidenced by the American Commissioners (Report, Page 19), in which the Writer concurs, must forcibly display the Difficulty of doing it in English Prisons under a more lenient System of Discipline. The contaminating Tendency of Acquaintance by Sight, and the Alleviation of Punishment produced by Companionship, are fully acknowledged; the other Evils of Association appear also to be deeply felt, as well as that solitary Confinement is the only Remedy for them all.

It is stated, however, or rather the Writer infers, as his Opinion, that strict Silence can be maintained, and that the Prisoners can be prevented from looking off their Work, without Corporal Punishment. From this Opinion, without travelling so far as Wethersfield, and judging from the Human Character alone, I shall take the Liberty of unhesitatingly and at once expressing my entire Dissent, Disagreement, and Disbelief. That great Approaches may be made to such Perfection I readily allow; but all the Argument that Human Ingenuity can supply will never convince me that a System which affords so many Opportunities will not continually be subject to small Infractions, even with Corporal Punishments; and that these Infractions, though small, will, I am equally certain, destroy almost all the Efficacy of the Regulation. How can we reconcile this with the previous Account of Auburn and Sing Sing, where such Irregularities exist in spite of the Terrors of immediate whipping. The different Characters of the Prisoners may do something; but among a Class so frequently and generally unruly, can it be expected that this Regulation will be effectually observed, especially by those who have just arrived? The long Confinements of these Prisoners will also tend to Regularity in America which cannot be expected in England, where the Confinements are so short; besides, the Unproductiveness of our Prison Labour affords no Inducement to work at all. Every Prisoner has a separate sleeping Cell; why then should he not be confined there in the Day as well as the Night? The Disuse of the Lash at Wethersfield appears to have captivated the Writer of this able Report, and charmed him into the Approval of every Part of the System practised there; but I never can too strongly urge the Evils inseparable from Association; the Opening given to Recognition among discharged Prisoners, the degrading and depressing Dread of being known on the Mind, the Companionship and consequent Relief from serious Thought, must form such mighty Objections as to destroy even its Title to Consideration.

By associated Labour the Reception of Religious Instruction must be greatly impeded; the Prisoner will be little inclined to Reflection while surrounded by his Companions; ever eager to embrace the Temptation to Communication thus set before him, it cannot be expected that his Thoughts will be flowing in the right Channel. The unavoidable Absences both of himself and his Officers at the Privies, &c. &c., will afford quite sufficient Opportunity for Relaxation, and the Prisoner will be enabled to stave off the Monitor, who must be the more unwelcome as he is the more needed.

When a Prisoner is intended to be reclaimed it is highly desirable that all Punishment shall, if possible, be avoided; this never can be done so well as on the solitary System. Punishment engenders Hatred, Irritation, Stubbornness, and sometimes Revenge, all of which are most unfavourable to that tranquil and serious State of Mind so absolutely necessary to Reformation. No Punishment can be inflicted without heightening the Excitement which may have existed before, and the Prisoner cannot be released until that Excitement is allayed. In all Systems of Discipline the Punishments should be applicable and proportionate to the Offences, therefore the grave Nature of our Confinements in England are ill adapted, practically, to the minor Cases constantly happening in a Prison. The returning the Number of Punishments annually, however desirable in some respects, operates most unfavourably on the Discipline of Prisons. The Act of Parliament does not require the Extent or Duration of the Punishment, but only the Number of Persons punished, and it

makes no Distinction between Boys and Men or Women, each of whom, and whether confined for a few Hours or for several Days, reckons as one, and as one only. The Want of an authorized minor Punishment is much felt, especially for Boys; in all Prison Punishments much must be left to the Discretion of the Governors. The *suaviter in modo* is undoubtedly to be preferred in general, although it is liable to be mistaken, and sometimes encourages Presumption, which ultimately leads to increased Punishment, and which a sharp Word or Look would have rendered unnecessary, by at once repressing the Temerity of the Offender. *Lieut. J. Sibly, R.N.*

The Recommendation of associated Labour appears to me to be one of those feeble Efforts which have too often frittered away or destroyed wholesome Enactments in this Country; I feel convinced, also, that the Ground of the Recommendation is erroneous. The Attention which Prison Discipline is now certain to command in England will never slumber until we have attained the *ne plus ultra;* therefore, whatever Money may be expended under other Views will in a short Time be found to have been thrown away. The Pennsylvanians have set us a noble Example in the Alteration of their Western Penitentiary, an Example which I fervently hope to see imitated here.

Before closing this Part of my Subject, I beg to mention that I have not found the Irksomeness of a short Period of solitary Confinement without Labour so great as might be apprehended from this Report. (Appendix, Page 2.) I have had nearly 100 Prisoners in my Charge, for Seven or Fourteen Days generally, who have been allowed no Employment but reading; and although they have uniformly stated that the Time moved slowly along, I have not known any one complain in a Manner to give rise to the smallest Apprehension. The Four Boys in solitary Confinement at the Time of your Lordships Visit, all confessed to me that they would prefer a Month at the Tread-wheel to Fourteen Days solitary, they having all experienced the Effects of both Punishments.

I have examined with much Care the Plans of the different Prisons annexed to this Report, and I see no Reason to change the Idea which I have expressed elsewhere of the best Form of building a Prison, especially if it be not required to contain more than about 300 Cells. The radiating Plan appears to me to possess no Advantages which do not belong to a straight one, particularly if there are to be Airing-yards for the Prisoners as I have proposed. The Buildings indeed are straight, and may be said either to cross each other or to join in the Centre. I have stated that it should stand North and South, with Airing-yards at Right Angles; by this Arrangement every Part would enjoy the Sun in Turn, which is highly advantageous to the Salubrity of a Building, and which cannot be wholly enjoyed in a radiating Prison. The Airing-yards should have covered Sheds on the North Side, to enable the Prisoners to take Exercise in wet Weather. The Chapel should be in the Middle of the Building, and the Governor's House over it. There are several Advantages in this Plan: the Chapel can be filled conveniently, and without Confusion, by Eight Doors, if requisite; the Governor's House, being above the Prison Building, and thrown out with Bulks, will command all the Airing-yards and the boundary Walls in the most complete Manner; the Governor will easily be able to superintend the Watchmen on Duty, &c. &c.

In the transverse Section of the Pennsylvanian Penitentiaries the Corridors are in the Middle, or between the Two Rows of Cells. I consider this not to be so good a Plan as to have them round the Cells, which shall be Back to Back. This Arrangement is especially advantageous according to my Plan of allowing Exercise in the open Air, as the Watchman will have complete and secret Inspection of both the Airing-yards and the Cells; the Intercourse in the central Corridors must be too great, particularly with reference to the Chapel Regulations, which the Americans have overlooked. I find a Note in the Report which disapproves of this Position of the Cells on account of Ventilation; however true the Remark may be as applied to the particular Cells there alluded to, I cannot consider the Disadvantage as necessarily belonging to their Construction; I am convinced Cells may as easily be ventilated on this Plan as on any other, as is indeed confessed in the Description of the Cells at Auburn. (Report, Page 16.)

It will be seen that the lower Cells will be wider than those above by the Breadth of the Galleries. This cannot be avoided, in order to light the lower Cells from above. The additional Accommodation thus afforded will not be undesirable for the long Fines. The external Wall of the lower Gallery may be very slight. The American Windows appear to be unnecessarily small; I should say that Double the Size would not be too large; nothing is gained by such contracted Windows when they are sufficiently high. In the Twilight, which is longer in England than in Pennsylvania, and in foggy Weather, which I believe is more prevalent here than in the United States, the Cells must be found very gloomy.

I propose that the Wash-house and Laundry be at one End of the Building, and the Cook-house at the other. The Heat from these Places may be carried along the Cells in Winter, which would save extra Fires. We have had no Fires at Brixton during the past Winter for the Men, and I believe we have had less Colds, &c., than before. The Matron's Apartments to be at the Laundry End, and to have direct Communication with the Women's Galleries. Every Cell to have a Privy, and there should be an excellent Drain below.

In the accompanying Plan I must beg to premise, that I have not confined myself to exact Measurements or minute Details, intending only to give a general Idea of what I consider to be the best Arrangement for a Prison under the best System of Discipline. It must be remembered that by the Reduction in the Terms of Imprisonment every Prison will perform much more Duty than heretofore; if we say One Third, this Prison, which is intended to contain 284 Cells, will be equal to one hitherto containing 426 Prisoners. It is drawn

Lieut. J. Sibly, R. N.

with reference to my former Paper; the Mode of Confinement to be solitary, (with simple Labour, if considered desirable,) and with short Exercise alone in the open Air, for which Purpose there are Sixteen Yards of about Seventy Feet by Fifty, being in the Proportion of Eighteen Cells to each, with Two Exceptions. The Length of the whole Building will be about 626 Feet, which is shorter than the American Range; the Width about 150 Feet. It is estimated that a Chapel of about Fifty-seven Feet by Thirty-six will be easily made to contain One Half the Prisoners at one Time, in separate Compartments, which can be filled with Celerity and Dispatch; and if the Chaplain be supposed to spend Four Hours per Diem in the Prison there will be abundant Opportunity for Instruction. The Number of inferior Officers requisite to carry on the Day and Night System of Discipline contemplated for this Prison will be Fifteen, besides a Matron. It is considered that the Gardener will be able to assist the Cook sufficiently, and that with the Assistant at the Lodge the Duty will be able to go on in the event of the temporary Illness of one of the Turnkeys. These latter are to be on Duty continually Two at a Time, regularly relieving each other every Four Hours; the Female Turnkey to be for Day Duty, and, with the Matron, to be at all Calls by Night; the Male Turnkeys to watch round the Women's Galleries as well as the Men's during the Night, the Locks of the Cells and the Proximity of the Matron securely preventing Communication.

6 Male Turnkeys.
1 Porter.
1 Gardener and Cook's Assistant.
1 Cook.
1 Female Turnkey.
4 Washerwomen.
1 Barber and Assistant to cleanse the Prisoners on their Arrival.

5 besides a Matron.

The Turnkeys, who are more properly Sentinels, having no Labour to superintend, will be enabled to take out the Prisoners Bedding in the Morning, to regularly release them singly to Half an Hour's Exercise every Day, to supply the Food and the Materials for simple Labour, to attend to the Surgeon's Directions, and indeed to perform every Kind of Duty that may be required, by Night as well as by Day. The Isolation of the Prisoners, and the perfect Surveillance, must prevent the slightest Disorder; every thing, therefore, will assist the inward Monitor, who will soon assume his powerful Influence in a Situation so peculiarly favourable to his successful Operation.

I have not given a Sketch of a Lodge and other Offices, as unnecessary at present, but have merely pointed out Places for the Vestry and Dispensary; I must be understood, however, as insisting on no more than the main Building, considering that nothing can be found in the minor Details of sufficient Importance to interfere with the great Principles I have laid down for the Construction of a Prison, and for its Government.

I have the Honour to be,
My Lords,
Your Lordships most obedient and humble Servant,
JOHN SIBLY, Lieut. R.N.,
Governor of the House of Correction at Brixton.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned 'till To-morrow, Four o' Clock.

305

Die Martis, 12° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Mr. WILLIAM WADHAM COPE is called in, and further examined as follows:

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to receive Provisions from their Friends?
Once a Week, the Day the Friends come in, on the Tuesday.

Are they permitted to purchase any Provisions or any Beer at any other Time?
They have a Pint of Beer every Day if they can pay for it, and we do not prevent their having Tea, Tobacco, or Coffee.

Do the Wardsmen in any Instances sell any thing to the Prisoners?
Certainly not; it is decidedly against my Orders; they have attempted to do it once or twice, latterly; the Moment I have found it I have dismissed them from being Wardsmen.

All the Wardsmen in Newgate are Prisoners under Sentence?
Yes.

The Women are allowed to smoke?
Yes, some of them are.

Any of them who choose to smoke are permitted to do so?
Yes.

Are the Wardsmen paid any thing extra for being Wardsmen?
No.

What Inducement have they for accepting the Office?
We allow them a little extra Provision.

If a Prisoner under Sentence requires Beer, how does he procure it?
There is a House appointed by the Sheriffs for them to supply the Prison with Beer for Three Months; they generally change every Three Months; that Man comes in at a certain Hour; he goes round to every Gate, and they go to him, or the Wardsman says, I want Half a Pint of Beer for such a Prisoner.

Have you an Officer there to see that one Prisoner does not get more than the Allowance?
No.

Do the Prisoners take the Beer into their Rooms?
Yes; sometimes they do not drink at all at the Time, but take it in the Evening; within the last Six Months the Man used to come in twice a Day with Beer; now he is allowed to come in but once.

You cannot positively state that a Prisoner does not get more than a Pint of Beer a Day?
I should think not more than a Pint, for I should see by going through the Wards if he had had too much, but it is impossible to prevent their having perhaps Half a Pint more.

Five Men may agree to let One Man have the Five Pints of Beer To-day, another To-morrow, and so on?
I do not think that could be done, for we should detect it by their being

Mr. W. W. Cope.

intoxicated, for my Two principal Turnkeys and myself muster them every Morning and Evening, and we should be sure to perceive it.

What Number of Pints are brought in for a given Number of Men; do you find the Number of Pints brought in equal to the Number of Prisoners?
Yes; the Man cannot bring in more than a certain Quantity every Day; if they want more I prevent it.

Cannot those who have Money get others who have none to apply for Beer, the Man who has the Money giving the Money, and thus purchasing an extra Quantity?
Yes; one may say to another, "Here is another Two-pence, get me an extra Pint of Beer;" when some who have not Money, others who have plenty in their Pockets lend it.

The Publican does not leave the Beer without being paid for it?
Never.

Have you an Account of the Quantity of Beer brought in each Day?
No; it will differ at the Commencement of the Session and the Close of it.

During the Time the Prisoners are in the Prison are they supplied with any Money besides what they bring in?
If their Friends bring them in a Shilling or Two we do not prevent their having it, or they would not be able to get the Beer.

Do you pay them for the Labour they perform in the Prison?
Some of them; a Carpenter who has been in some Time we give Five Shillings a Week, to a Whitewasher Eighteen-pence a Week, and a Man who cleans the Wards Half a Crown a Week.

Is the Carpenter a convicted Felon?
Yes.

Kept back from Transportation because he is useful in the Prison?
Yes.

For what Offence was he convicted?
He was tried for stealing some Tools; he was sent to Portsmouth; he went to work in several of the Rooms in the Dock Yard, and he tells me he thought there was such an Opportunity of walking away that he went out of the Dock Yard, and he was then tried for returning from Transportation.

Have you a Wardsman in this Prison now who was sentenced to Transportation for Life for robbing his Master?
Yes.

He was sentenced to be transported for Life, but kept back because he makes himself useful as Wardsman?
Yes.

If that Man behaved ill as a Wardsman, would he be transported?
Certainly. I should make an Application to Mr. Capper to have him sent away immediately. I invariably request of the Judge, when he is passing Sentence, to pass a Sentence of Transportation upon the Men. Formerly they have passed a Sentence of Two or Three Years Imprisonment upon them, but we have found that operate very injuriously upon them; they say "You cannot do any more with me than that." But where they are ordered for Transportation, I say, "If you do not behave properly I shall apply to the Secretary of State to send you away."

Since the Alteration has been made, subjecting them to severer Punishment on being transported, do you find that the Prisoners are more alarmed at the Idea of being transported?
I do not find that it makes any Alteration in them, though the Recorder invariably when he calls them up for Sentence reads that Clause in the Act.

Do they dread Transportation much?
I do not think they do; a great Part of them, I should say, taking Nineteen out of every Twenty, are glad to go.

Have

Mr. W. W. Cope.

Have any Communications been received by the Relations of those who have been transported since the Transports have been subjected to heavier Punishments, in which those Convicts have stated how much annoyed they are by the Punishment they suffer there?

I have not heard of any Case, and I do not think there has been; some few do it; it would take nearly a Year and a Half before the Intelligence could be received.

Formerly the Reports received from the Transports gave their Friends Reason to suppose they were going on very comfortably?

Yes; but we have not heard much of the Way in which this Act is operating yet.

Do you not think that it may be expected that when some of the Men who have served their Seven Years come back, they may give a different Account, and that this may lead to a greater Dread of Transportation?

I think it will.

Do you not believe that a great many of those Persons commit Crimes from bad Habit, from living with very bad Company, and from the Hope of not being detected?

There is not a Question of that, and from Drink; it clearly arises from excessive drinking, Gin and so on.

Is that generally the Case with all your Prisoners?

With nearly the whole of them; they generally admit that it is Gin and the Pawnbroker; the ready Means of getting a Shilling, if they want it.

Do you find that it is the same with the Females?

Yes.

Do the Females dread Transportation?

No; the greater Part had rather leave than not.

Do you find that the young Girls who are in Newgate at this Moment have been led to commit Offences by excessive drinking?

No; they have been mostly seduced by others; one by her Mother, who took her into the Shop for the Purpose of Shop-lifting.

Are they riotous on being removed for Transportation?

They generally come out very quiet indeed. I do not know what we must do with one particular Woman, who is exceedingly troublesome; she has been here before, as well as in Cold Bath Fields, and had been obliged to be put into Irons; she broke every Window in the Place when she was here, and knocked the Women about.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?

Yes; they are once a Week.

Is there a Turnkey always present during those Visits?

The Turnkey is generally walking up and down the Passage.

With the sentenced Females is the same Practice followed?

Yes, precisely.

With the untried is there always a Turnkey present at the Visits?

A Turnkey is generally about in the Passage.

With the Women untried is there a Female Officer or Turnkey between them and the Visitors?

No, there is not.

Therefore the Visitors may say any thing to them without being overheard, and give them any thing?

They cannot very well give them any thing, the Bars are between them, and in some Parts there is a Double Iron Railing, so that the Persons who come to visit them are nearly Four Feet from them; it is scarcely wider than the Width of my Finger, and the Woman who sits in the Ward may see if any thing passes through; they might pass a Shilling or Half a Crown on a Bit of Stick.

Mr. W. W. Cope.

But you do not object to the Prisoners receiving Money?
No; we generally let it be given through the Wardsmen.

Do the untried Prisoners receive Visits from their Friends Three Days a Week?
Yes, they come to see the untried Three Days in the Week.

Without a Magistrate's Order?
Yes.

Good Characters or bad?
We always ask them whether they are Relations; we may be deceived.

Suppose a Person untried wishes to see his Legal Adviser, where does he see him?
Generally they come to the Gate to speak to them, unless it is any thing very particular; he may then come into the Office, and say, "I wish to see such a Person alone if you will let him come out." Solicitors are always allowed to come in from One to Half past Three, after the regular Hours of visiting.

The Committee have received a Statement which they wish you to answer. It refers to the Case of a Boy of the Name of "————, Fifteen Years of Age, received into the Penitentiary on the 9th February 1835, from the Euryalus Hulk, having been tried at the Old Bailey on the 5th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of stealing Two Pairs of Boots, and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he had never been in Prison before; was One Week in Newgate before Trial in what is called the Chapel Yard; there were upwards of Thirty Prisoners in it, some of them tried and some untried;" is that true?
I should say not.

The Chapel Yard is the School, is it not?
Yes.

You put the tried and untried together there?
I do not think we could have had that Number. It is very likely he was there with tried and untried.

You generally put the Boys of Fifteen and under there?
Yes; the Moment that Sentence of Transportation is passed upon any one he would go back to the School, for I should not like to have mixed them with other Transports.

"Five or Six of them had been convicted before, and One of them no less than Four Times; there were Persons for different Offences, some for House-breaking, some for Highway Robbery, some for stealing Poultry, Ten or Eleven for passing bad Money, (they were called 'Smashers,') and several for picking of Pockets; slept in a Room with about Twenty Prisoners;" is that likely to be true?
I think it is.

"Three slept on Two Mats placed on the Ground; there were no Bedsteads."
It is very probable Three Boys of that Age would be put on Two Mats.

There were not then, and there is not now, any Bedsteads except for the Wardsmen?
No.

Do you not think it would be better that there should be Iron Bedsteads in this Prison as there are in most of the Prisons in the County?
I think it would be desirable.

Both in the Airing-yard and in the Room this Youth describes the Conduct and Language made use of by the greater Number of Prisoners he was obliged to associate with as most depraved and shocking; that is very likely to be true, is it not?
It is.

"His Pockets were frequently picked, and they robbed one another;" do you ever hear of any Complaints of this Sort?
I have heard of Things of that Kind, and I think I recollect the Case referred to,

300

Mr. W. W. Cope.

to, and I went round and insisted on finding out the Party who had robbed him, and I think I did. When I cannot find out those Things I lock the whole Ward up, till it is discovered. I think the Boy's Money was found, and the other Boy punished.

"There was gambling carried on all Day long; Card-playing, Pitch and Toss, and Chuck Farthing;" is that likely to be true?

I should think not; I have seen the Boys at play; I do not prevent their having a Ball or jumping over each other's Backs; but as to gambling I have never seen it there, and the greater Part of the Boys who come in are so poor that they have not to the Amount of Sixpence, and taking Five out of Six I do not think they have a Penny.

"Some boasting of their former Robberies, some cursing and swearing, some telling of obscene Stories, and some singing vile Songs; there was a Wardsman who had been a tried Prisoner upwards of Two Years; he was appointed to keep Order and Regularity in the Yard and in the Room, but he was full as bad as any of the rest; Provisions are allowed to be received from Friends, or to be purchased."

That used to be the Case; they used to purchase; now they do not, except Beer.

Have you made that Alteration of your own Authority?

No; an Order of the Magistrates of the City of London; I made an Application to them, and they directed it.

How long ago was that Alteration made?

I think the Order was put up very early in January—perhaps the Middle of January; I think that the Boy alluded to came in the latter End of November or the Beginning of December.

He states that "the Wardsman sold Bread to the Prisoners;" do you think this Part of his Statement is true?

I should think not; I do not see how it could be done.

If they were allowed to purchase Provisions that might be the Case?

I do not see why a Boy should purchase it, for they tell me that they have enough whenever I ask them; we give them a Pound of Bread each Day, and that I conceive is enough.

Have they ever asked you for more?

They never asked me for more.

He says the Wardsman "used to keep back Part of the Meat allowed, and sell it at Night to the Prisoners;" do you think that likely?

I should think not; if the Wardsman could do it it would be only his own, and he has only Nine Ounces; that is all the Meat he has.

Does he distribute the Meat to the Prisoners?

He does.

Without the Turnkey being present?

Yes, he does.

Then it is possible it might be the Case?

Yes, it is possible.

There is a certain Quantity of Meat given for the Ward, and he distributes it to the Prisoners in the Ward?

Yes, by the Scale; we see there are so many; there are so many Pounds of Meat; we know the precise Number in every Ward, and give the Allowance accordingly.

"The Wardsman had the Bread from one of the Turnkeys named Ingall;" have you any Turnkey of the Name of Ingall?

No; there is a Wardsman of that Name.

Is the Meat in separate Tins for each Man?

No, it is taken up in a Lump, so many Pounds, and the Wardsman cuts it up as well as he can; they send it all round in Tins. Ever since I have been in the

Mr. W. W. Cope.

Gaol I have never heard a Complaint of the Kind, and I believe all the Prisoners know if I was sent for I should go and set the Matter right.

The Committee are only requiring Information in consequence of the Statement which has been made to them; they are not prejudging the Case, being very well aware that Prisoners are not always accurate. This Boy says he "has sometimes paid 6*d.* and sometimes 7*d.* to the Wardsman for a Half Quartern Loaf; Porter and Ale was brought in and sold;" is Ale allowed to be brought in, or only Porter?

I have never allowed Ale to be brought in, except in One or Two Instances where a Complaint has been made that the Man could not drink Porter, and I have allowed Ale in those Cases.

Can you furnish the Committee with a Return of the Prisoners now in the Middle Yard?

I can; this is the Return.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

NAMES of the PRISONERS in the MIDDLE YARD of His Majesty's GAOL of NEWGATE, committed for Trial at the next Central Criminal Court, Monday, 11th April 1835.

AGE.	NAMES.	Before known to have been in Prison.
	No. 15 Ward:—	
20	James Mitchell	Has been in House of Correction.
19	John Gradney	House of Correction.
23	William Smith	Not known.
18	John Cosgrove	Ditto.
18	William Newton	3 Months in House of Correction.
20	Isaac Marks	Not known.
20	Thomas Lee	Ditto.
19	James Smith	Ditto.
19	George Nibbs	House of Correction.
26	James Brown	Not known.
19	Robert Kercheville	Ditto.
20	Thomas Eaton	Ditto.
22	Joseph Seager	Ditto.
18	Thomas Toomey	3 Months in House of Correction.
26	Samuel Seymour	Not known.
32	James Ellis	Ditto.
18	James Anstice	Ditto.
20	Robert Banton	Ditto.
20	John Shields	Ditto.
22	John Williams	Ditto.
25	Thomas Moore	Ditto.
24	George Newby	Ditto.
16	John Lewer	House of Correction, and whipt.
20	James Souter	Not known.
18	Thomas Salmon	House of Correction.
20	John Brown	Not known.
28	William Hall	Ditto.
	No. 16 Ward:—	
52	John Garrett	Not known.
45	John Rowley	Ditto.
43	John Chilvers	Ditto.
21	John Doyle	Ditto.
26	Daniel Palmer	Ditto.
17	Henry Adams	Ditto.
17	Edward Martin	House of Correction.
18	Robert Rowland	Not known.
16	George Ralph	Ditto.

AGE.	NAME.	Before known to have been in Prison.
	No. 16 Ward—*continued:*	
21	William Vonge	Not known.
17	George Frederick Ball	Ditto.
15	Matthew Marshall	Ditto.
16	James M'Crouskin	Ditto.
19	Richard Newman	Ditto.
20	Henry Jones	Bridewell.
23	James Bennett	Not known.
22	Frederick Scarsbrook	Convicted before.
21	John Williams	Not known.
16	William Rowley	Ditto.
20	James Bryant	Ditto.
23	George Taylor	House of Correction.
17	William Williams	Ditto, Four Times.
17	William Babey	Not known.
18	Thomas Skuse	Ditto.
17	William Ward	House of Correction.
19	John Brown	Not known.
	No. 17 Ward:—	
18	John Smith	House of Correction.
22	Andrew Porter	Not known.
20	John Davis	3 Months in House of Correction.
36	Michael Murphy	Not known.
17	Thomas Bragg	Ditto.
19	Richard Hicks	House of Correction.
21	William Cleaver	Not known.
20	William Sims	Ditto.
19	James Benham	House of Correction.
19	William Dixon	Tried and acquitted.
19	James Cressey	Same.
16	William Sutton	Not known.
17	John Green	Ditto.
30	John M'Donald	Ditto.
18	Robert Thomas	Ditto.
40	John Stewart	Ditto.
20	Edward Taylor	House of Correction.
17	William Carroll	Not known.
16	John Tucker	Ditto.
16	Henry Ware	Tried and acquitted.
42	George Hodges	Not known.
18	George Moore	Tried and acquitted.
20	Thomas Shearman	Not known.
17	William Bowles	Ditto.
18	William Hill	Ditto.
23	Richard Oliphant	House of Correction.
	No. 18 Ward:—	
18	Thomas Green	Not known.
16	Thomas Savage	Ditto.
16	John Matthews	Ditto.
16	John Thomas	House of Correction.
18	James Mann	Ditto.
19	William Brown	Not known.
20	William Pollard	Ditto.
26	William Johnson	Ditto.
18	John Carter	Ditto.
19	John Williams	Ditto.
18	William Jones	Ditto.
18	John Bygrave	Ditto.
19	Thomas Luther	Ditto.

Mr. W. W. Cope.

AGE.	NAME.	Before known to have been in Prison.
	No 18 Ward—*continued:*	
16	John Artican - -	Not known.
21	Thomas Shepherd - -	Ditto.
24	Henry Mellish - -	Ditto.
16	James Key - - -	Ditto.
16	Stephen Lockyer - -	House of Correction.
19	Joseph Nixon - -	Not known.
21	James Esdale - -	Ditto.
19	William Marsh - -	Ditto.
17	Frederick Bethel - -	Ditto.
16	Thomas Chapman - -	Ditto.
19	John Wood - -	Ditto.
28	Edward Taylor - -	House of Correction.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Edward Ingall.

EDWARD INGALL is called in, and examined as follows:

How long have you been a Wardsman in Newgate?
About Four Months.

For what Offence were you committed?
I was committed here by the Commissioners of Assessed Taxes, Clerkenwell, for a Defalcation.

To what Amount?
The Assessed, £150, and the Land about the same Amount.

From what Part of the Country do you come?
Nottinghamshire; I was born at a Village named Stirrup, near Worksop.

Were you committed in London or in the Country?
In London.

What was your Sentence?
No Sentence, but 'till the Money is paid.

In what Ward are you Wardsman now?
No. 24, on the Master's Side.

Have you ever been in the Chapel Ward?
No.

Do you remember a Boy of the Name of ————, who was tried on the 5th of February for stealing Boots, and convicted?
I have some Recollection of the Name.

Have you ever procured Bread for any Prisoners while you have been here?
I have sometimes.

From whom?
It is brought by the Passage Man; it is brought from the Women's Side.

How does the Passage Man get it?
That I cannot say.

What is the Name of the Passage Man?
There have been several in my Time.

Are they Prisoners?
Yes.

Do you get it in Whole Loaves?
Sometimes Whole, sometimes Half; it is for the Benefit of the Prisoners who want Bread.

Do they buy it from you?
Yes.

What do they give you for it?
Two-pence Halfpenny and Three-pence for one of the Two Pound Loaves.

What

What Proportion does that bear to the regular Price?
That is about the Price, I think.

Do you make any Profit?
No; it is merely to accommodate the Men in the Yard; they are so ravenous they will eat any thing almost.

Is not the Prison Allowance sufficient?
Yes, I should conceive myself that it is enough.

Have the Prisoners asked you to apply to the Governor for more?
If they want more Soup or Gruel I frequently fetch it myself from the Cookhouse.

Has the same Thing happened with respect to Bread?
No.

Have they ever expressed a Wish that they should have more Bread, without asking you to get it?
No.

Is your Ward for tried or untried Prisoners?
They are all untried except One; Judgment respited in consequence of a Point of Law.

Have you always been a Wardsman in an untried Ward?
Yes; never in any other Ward but the 24 in which I am.

You said that you could get more Gruel for them by going to the Kitchen?
Yes; sometimes there is a little left; they are very glad to have it, in the Middle Yard in particular.

What is the Middle Yard?
For untried Prisoners.

Of what Description?
They are the lowest Class; many of them have no Calls, no Friends.

They, therefore, receive more Gaol Allowance?
I should say they do.

And they purchase Bread if they like to do so?
Yes.

How many purchased Bread of you Yesterday?
I think Three or Four.

Have any purchased To-day?
No; it is generally in the Evening Part.

You receive their Allowance of Meat in the Gross, and divide it among them?
Yes.

Are you in the habit of letting them have any Meat in the Evening in the Wards?
Never.

You never sell them, or procure for them, any Meat in the Evening?
Never.

Suppose a Prisoner does not eat the whole of his Allowance, should you think you might give it to another Prisoner?
No; it is given to him at the Time it is divided, and if he leaves any it is put aside by him for the Night.

Are there Complaints in that Ward that the Prisoners rob one another?
Yes, continually. I am the Gatesman of the Inner Gate, and I am between the Gates almost all the Day, therefore I am obliged to appoint a Person to do a Part of my Duty in the Ward; I have the Names to call out, and all the new Prisoners pass through my Hands as they come in.

Whom have you appointed as your Deputy?
The Judgment Respite.

What was his Offence?
He was tried for Perjury.

Edward Ingall.

What do you allow him for assisting you?
Only a little extra Ration, such as I have myself; I have some White Bread sometimes come in; and perhaps he officiates and does a little for the Prisoners, and picks up a few Halfpence.

The Deputy Wardsman is allowed to receive the few Halfpence?
Yes.

Who lets the Bedding in the Ward?
Those belong to me.

Did you purchase the Bedding?
I did; about Six Months ago I purchased Six Canvass Mattresses.

What Sum do you receive from each Prisoner for the Bedding?
Two Shillings a Week, and sometimes Half a Crown; that is given voluntarily.

How many Prisoners are in your Ward now?
Fifteen with myself.

How many Mattresses do you now let out to the Prisoners?
I think there are Four.

Are not the Prisoners allowed to receive Beer from their Friends previous to Trial?
No; none is allowed to come in but through the Beer Man, who brings it once a Day.

The Prisoners pay for it?
Yes.

How much do they have?
I think about a Pint on the Average; some get more and some get none; those that have no Money, of course, do not get Beer.

They are allowed to have as much as Two Pints, are not they?
They have had as much as Two Pints.

Do you think any of those who have got Money do ask some of those who have none to purchase the Beer for them, so that the Man with the Money may have more than the Two Pints?
No, I do not think it; that may be the Case; I think it is very likely; but it has not come under my Recollection.

Have you ever had any thing to do with procuring any thing for them from the Beer Man?
No; I always give them the Beer out from the Passage Window into the Yard.

And they pay you the Money?
Yes, and I hand it over to the Beer Man.

What do they pay you?
Nothing for that; that is my Duty; they pay $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ a Pot for the Beer.

Are they in the habit of giving you Four-pence and telling you to keep the odd Halfpenny?
Never.

Can you say that you never sold Bread to the Boy who has been mentioned, for which he paid you Sixpence or Seven-pence for a Half Quartern Loaf?
No.

You think it probable you have sold him Bread?
Never at a higher Price than Three-pence.

Do you get any Allowance from the Baker for it?
No. I frequently give some of my own Bread away; I do not eat the whole of my Brown Bread.

You have not a very great Opportunity of hearing the Conversation of the Prisoners, from your being a Gatesman?
No; they are so cautious in the Yards, and they come very seldom into the Wards, except my own.

3/5

Edward Ingall.

Is their Conversation such as it ought to be, or is there a great deal of swearing, cursing, and obscene Language?
There is a good deal of that sometimes; it is checked as much as it can be, but in the Middle Yard it is very bad.

Do you not believe that some of them go out of the Prison much worse than when they were committed, in consequence of the bad Language and Conduct of those with whom they are associated?
I should fear they do.

Do you not conceive it possible from the Manner in which they sleep together that Offences of a very disgusting Description may take place?
I should think not; I have never heard of any thing of the Kind being attempted.

They sleep close together on the Floor?
Yes, when the Wards are very full.

There is hardly a Foot between each Rug?
There is hardly that; the Rugs and Mats are laid close together.

They have no Pillows or Bolsters?
No; only their own Clothing.

Are they in the habit of undressing?
Yes.

The Men sleep within a few Inches of each other?
Yes, they are at this Time.

Do they change their Places every Night?
No, they generally keep their own Places; there is a good deal of quarrelling about it in some Instances.

Is it not very difficult in the Middle Yard to keep any thing like Order at Night; are they not quarrelling, swearing, and making a great Noise?
We quell it as much as possible.

There are Religious Books in that Ward; do you think the Majority of the Prisoners read those Books?
No, I do not.

Do they not damage them, and write in them, and otherwise deface them?
Yes, they do; in fact we have not let Prayer Books or Bibles go into the Middle Yard; lately I have taken one out of the Ward which was nearly torn up; I showed it to Mr. Cotton on Sunday last; he desired me to lock it up, and take care of it, in case it should be called for; I have one in my own Ward, which I take care of; they are rather a better Description of Men in my own Ward.

You do not know any thing of the Middle Yard after they are locked up for the Night?
No, not after they are locked up. My Time in the Daytime is wholly engaged between the Gates with the new Prisoners and Changes on that Station.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. M. Newman.

Mr. MATTHEW NEWMAN is called in, and examined as follows:

How long have you been the principal Turnkey of Newgate?
About Three Years and a Half.

You have been a Turnkey for a longer Period?
Yes, about Eight Years next July.

Do you consider that the worst Description of Prisoners are in the Middle Yard?
The worst of Characters, the lowest of all.

Since you have been at Newgate have you ever heard it asserted, that Crimes of a disgusting Nature have been attempted in Newgate?
I have.

Mr. M. Newman.

How long ago is it since you have heard it?
I think about a Twelvemonth ago; that was in the Chapel Yard.

Will you state what that Case was?
I understood there was one Man who had Connexion with another, and he had attempted it with another also; it was made known to the Governor, and he was removed from that Ward. I forget whether he was locked up or not.

Was it reported to the Magistrates?
It was reported to Mr. Cope, and I think he mentioned it to the Aldermen; I know it was noticed at the Time.

Was that Man tried for that Offence?
No.

Do you know what became of him afterwards?
I do not.

Have you a great Number of Prisoners in Newgate, at this Moment, charged with unnatural Attempts?
We have at times; we have not one at present; we have one for a Rape.

None for indecent Conduct of that Description?
We have one for indecent Conduct of a very gross Description.

Is the Prison large enough to enable you to place Men charged with those Crimes in a Place by themselves, or are you forced to place them with other Prisoners?
We are obliged to mix them with the rest, and that in the Chapel Yard; before Trial they are mixed with the decent Men who are walking about there.

Are you not of opinion that from the Number and Description of the Men sleeping together in those Rooms they do contaminate one another?
I should think they do.

Do you believe that a Man's Chance of going out of Newgate better than he was when he came in is a very small one?
I should think it was very small indeed.

Have you ever heard of any other Case of indecent Conduct than the one you have referred to?
Not lately; I think in the late Governor's Time there was a Case of the Schoolmaster, who was a Prisoner, taking Liberties with the Boys.

He was dismissed from his Situation of Schoolmaster?
Yes, instanter.

Was he soon after discharged?
Yes, he was; his Sentence having expired.

Do you not think, looking to the bad Character of some of the Prisoners in those Wards, that there would be very great Facility to their committing this particular Offence?
I cannot say.

Do they not sleep very close together?
Yes, very close; it might be done, certainly.

There is no Person to watch?
No; the Wardsman sleeps at one End, and the rest lie with their Heads towards the Wall all round, and very close together. Some Years ago, when I used to unlock, I saw them lie all round, and I shut the Door again when I have unlocked it in the Morning. We never go in to see them go to Bed.

The Turnkeys have no Means, unless in the Daytime, to see what is going on?
No.

And the Prisoners are aware that no Person can see them at Night without opening the Door and making a Noise?
Yes.

Is there any Light in the Room?
They are allowed a Light 'till Ten o'Clock; after that it is dark.

Who

317

Mr. M. Newman.

Who puts the Light out?

The Wardsman, and the Fires; there are Two Turnkeys on the Top of the Prison to see that the Lights are out at Ten o'Clock.

But the Prisoners are all aware that you have no Inspection of them without opening the Door, and that the only Check upon them is the Wardsman, who sleeps at one End of the Room?

Yes.

He being himself a convicted Prisoner?

Yes, he is; there has been an Alteration in the Prison, as to the Wardsmen, of late; we used to have always a convicted Prisoner, but we have not a Sufficiency; we are obliged to make an untried Prisoner a Wardsman during the Time he is there, which is a very limited Time; he may be tried and sent to the House of Correction, or sent out of the Country.

Do you think the Prisoners dread Transportation now more than they did?

I think they do.

For what Reason?

The Recorder has made it known to many of them who have been in here before, and they tell each other. The Recorder always tells them that Transportation is much worse now than it used to be, and their Friends also get hold of it. I think it is generally known that it is much worse now.

In your Opinion, is there a great Inconvenience in keeping the Insane Prisoners with the other Prisoners?

A very great one indeed.

The Committee saw To-day several Persons who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, and one who appeared as if he was really insane?

Yes; I have seen that Man so several Times, but there is very little Difference in the others; I think that Man is insane.

Have you seen many that have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity who are perfectly sane?

Yes; there are some in Newgate now, I know.

Have you ever heard the other Prisoners talk upon that Subject, and express Surprise?

Yes, I have.

Have they said any thing as to what the Man deserved?

They have said, "Oh, you are not mad." "No, I know I am not," the Man has said. I took ——— down to Hanwell, and ———; the former said he was not mad, but he had saved his Neck; they took the latter in; he was there about a Month, and there was an Order to bring him back from the Secretary of State.

Was that Order founded on any Report that the Man was not mad?

Yes, it was; they said that he was not mad.

——— is the Man that shot at Mr. ———?

Yes.

What was he?

He was a Captain on board one of Mr. ———'s Ships, whaling; he did not bring Home a Cargo of Oil, and Mr. ——— would not give him a Character, and he could not get into Employ, and he swore he would murder him, and he shot at him, and wounded him.

Have you heard of many Cases of the indecent Nature before alluded to since you have been in Newgate?

Not many.

How many?

I should think about Three or Four.

How often does the Beer Man come into the Prison?

Once a Day now; before the new Regulations, twice.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Friday next, One o'Clock.

319

APPENDIX

TO

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

APPOINTED

TO INQUIRE INTO THE PRESENT STATE

OF THE SEVERAL

GAOLS AND HOUSES OF CORRECTION

IN

ENGLAND AND WALES.

1835.

LIST OF THE APPENDIX.

Page

No. 1.—Questions by one of the Magistrates at Wakefield to unconvicted Prisoners, and their Answers thereto - - - - - - - - - - 1

No. 2.—Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank - - - - - 14

No. 3.—Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in the Penitentiary, Milbank - - - 21

No. 4.—Answers and Observations by the Governor of the House of Correction at Petworth to the Questions circulated by Order of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Gaols - - - - - - - - - - - 58

No. 5.—Answers and Observations by the Governor of the County Gaol at Derby to the Questions circulated by Order of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Gaols - - 60

No. 6.—Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in the House of Correction at Lewes, Sussex - 63

No. 7.—Rules and Regulations made for the Government of the Houses of Correction of the County of Surrey - - - - - - - - - - 64

No. 8.—Rules and Regulations made for the Government of the House of Correction at Wakefield, York - - - - - - - - - - 69

No. 9.—Questions sent out by the Committee of the Prison Discipline Society to the several Gaols and Houses of Correction, with the Answers of the Governors and Gaolers thereto - - - - - - - - - - - 73

No. 9 *a*.—Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement accompanying the Answers of the Governors and Gaolers - - - - - - - 116

No. 10.—Abstract of Returns from Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, and Chief Magistrates of Cities, Boroughs, and Corporate Towns, to Questions from the Select Committee of the House of Lords as to Silence being enforced in Gaols and Houses of Correction 124

No. 11.—Questions sent by Order of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Gaols to the Gaolers of several Prisons with reference to the annual Returns made to the Secretary of State for 1834, with the Answers thereto - - - - 136

No. 12.—Remarks on the State of Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales, by George Thomas Bullar, Esq. - - - - - - - - - 146

No. 13.—Extracts relative to Gaols from Report and Appendix on Municipal Corporations - 151

No. 14.—Returns and Tables of the Gaol and House of Correction at Reading - - 170

321

APPENDIX.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 1.

QUESTIONS by one of the Magistrates at WAKEFIELD to UNCONVICTED PRISONERS, and their ANSWERS* thereto.

Die Veneris, 10° *Aprilis* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

THE Lord in the Chair delivers in to the Committee a Manuscript Book, which he had received from one of the Visiting Magistrates of Wakefield, containing Memoranda made by himself of Answers given by Unconvicted Prisoners to Questions put to them; and states, that he has Permission to lay it before the Committee.

(*September 9th*, 1834.)

No. 1. *A. B.*

Name?—A. B.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing from a Public-house. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been confined Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in a Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I think there would be much loose Conversation, fighting, and quarrelling if Silence was not enforced.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I should very much prefer the present System. We have many Advantages of reading Religious Books, and do not hear offensive Conversations.

No. 2. *A. C.*

Name?—A. C.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Rabbits. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been confined Eight Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been imprisoned Three Months for an Assault, Six or Seven Years ago, in this Prison.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was rough Goings-on amongst the Prisoners then; fighting, cursing, and swearing amongst each other.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I would rather have it as it is now, it passes the Time on a deal better than Cursing and Blackguardism amongst each other.

No. 3. *A. D.*

Name?—A. D.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Wool. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Eight Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in a Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard tell that there used to be a deal of cursing and fighting.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I would rather be as I am; I could not tell how to manage them t'other Way; and I do not like to hear cursing and swearing; we never had it in our House.

* The Words and Meaning of the Prisoners were taken down as accurately as could be.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 4. *A. E.*

Name?—A. E.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Cast Steel. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Seven Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard that the Prison used to be a Place of all Sorts of indecent Language and riotous Conduct, and I believe it to be true.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be under the present Subjection than be liable to such like as was before; it prevents a deal of Sin and Wickedness, both as to Youths and Persons of older Age.

No. 5. *A. F.*

Name?—A. F.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Box and Bag. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Seven Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I don't know, and never heard what the Conduct of Prisoners used to be.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am than mix with them. They might be putting me up to something bad.

No. 6. *A. G.*

Name?—A. G.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Pocket. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Nine Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never spent a Day in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I think there would not be good Morals kept among a good many of them (without Silence); but some have better Conduct than others.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am, because I should learn nothing that is good of a good many of them.

No. 7. *A. H.*

Name?—A. H.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Pocket-picking. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Four Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in a Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I should imagine there would be a deal of low improper Conversation unless Silence was enforced.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I should prefer as I am now, because no Person can take a Liberty with me, and there can be no wrangling.

No. 8. *A. I.*

Name?—A. I.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Housebreaking. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Five Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in Prison twice before, once for Bastardy and once for Felony.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather have it as it was before.

No. 9. *A. J.*

Name?—A. J.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Fowls. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Four Days.

If

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I think there would be much Bother in one advising another.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am; I might have learnt something wrong.

No. 10. *A. K.*

Name?—A. K.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing Geese. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in a Fortnight.

If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—It would be a sore Life if all could talk as they liked.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am while the Time is up. It is a deal better Behaviour.

No. 11. *A. L.*

Name?—A. L.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing a Goose. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison, and if ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before; been in a Fortnight.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I think there would be much Disturbance if Prisoners talked as they liked.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I is; it will keep all quiet best.

No. 12. *A. M.*

Name?—A. M.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Picking Pockets. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been in Prison Three Times before: first, for House-breaking; second, stealing a Dog; third, Vagrancy.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be some good and some bad Conversation.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I was before, because I can't talk.

No. 13. *A. N.*

Name?—A. N.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing Cloth. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in Five Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old Syetem; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be where I am allowed to talk. I know nothing about Conversation in Prisons.

No. 14. *A. O.*

Name?—A. O.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Pocket-picking. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been in once before, last Year, for the same Offence.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—Before, Prisoners talked of what Robberies they had done and intended to do, and all Sorts of Stuff, Foolishness, and Nonsense.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—It is quieter and a deal more comfortable now for one that wants to be still. I had rather be silent than with the Rabble, where there was all Sorts of shouting and singing.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 15. *A. P.*

Name?—A. P.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Handkerchiefs. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Week.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—Can't form an Opinion of what Sort of Conduct Prisoners would have if Silence was not preserved.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now, because I have heard that Prisoners who have been here have had their Morals corrupted; and I have myself known Men who have never worked after they have come from here.

No. 16. *A. Q.*

Name?—A. Q.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Wool. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I think there would be all Sorts in a Prison.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be under the old System, where I could talk.

No. 17. *A. R.*

Name?—A. R.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Horn. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Fortnight.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in Prison before for an Assault, Four Years since.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was some loose Conversation, but our Room was pretty quiet.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I recommend this System to be better, and should prefer it.

No. 18. *A. S.*

Name?—A. S.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Shawl. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Four Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There must be a deal of bad Conversation amongst so heterogeneous a Mass.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be under the old System. I think I am old enough to take care of myself.

No. 19. *A. T.*

Name?—A. T.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing from the Person. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Thirteen Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—If Prisoners were allowed to talk there would be nothing but cursing and swearing.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had much rather be as I am now.

No. 20. *A. U.*

Name?—A. U.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Receiving a stolen Coat. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in Seven Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before,

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There would be Cursing of all Sorts if they were allowed to talk.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had a deal rather be as I am now, it keeps one out of Trouble.

No. 21. *A. V.*

Name?—A. V.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Highway Robbery. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in a Week.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been in once before, Pocket-picking, last Year, Two Months.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be much cursing, swearing, and gambling and fighting.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am than as I was then.

No. 22. *A. W.*

Name?—A. W.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Receiving stolen Money. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in Two Months.

If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard from other Prisoners before I came in that I might do as I liked here.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now.

No. 23. *A. X.*

Name?—A. X.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing a Shawl. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.

If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I think there must be a deal of cursing and swearing if allowed to talk.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now than be subject to it.

No. 24. *A. Y.* Forty-one Years of Age.

Name?—A. Y.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing Money from the Person. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in Seven Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been in this Prison twice before, Three Years since. I was sentenced to Six Months Imprisonment.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—The Conduct of the Prisoners used to be very mean. They used to take advantage of me as an old Man. The first Night they blinded me and took all I had. The best Man got the Fire. They told Tales of what they had done, and had mock Trials.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather it was as it is now; it is better for old Men. I can keep my Victuals, and am a deal more comfortable. If I used to turn my Head my Mess and Loaf was sure to be gone, and no one owned to it. If I reported they were sure to serve me out.

No. 25. *A. Z.*

Name?—A. Z.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing a Silk Handkerchief, &c. (For Trial.)

How long been in Prison?—Been in a Week.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been here before for the same Offence, a Year ago.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—They used to go on shameful; it was scandalous to a moral Man; they fought one another, and told false Tales. If a Man prayed, they mocked and taunted him all Day long.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather it was as it is; it is better for Mankind.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 26. *B. C.*

Name?—B. C.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Pocket-picking. (For Trial.)
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been here for Two Months, Nine Months ago, for Felony.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was a deal of swearing and gambling.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—As it is now it will make a Man know himself. I had sooner it was as it is now.

(*September 26th*, 1834.)

No. 27. *B. D.*

Name?—B. D.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Charged with stealing Wool from a Wharf.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Prison a Fortnight.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been here before, Two Years and a Half ago; was convicted of Felony, and imprisoned Three Months.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was all Sorts of Wickedness going on, gambling, cursing, and all blackguard Talk.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think this is better now; it will make People refrain from their bad Deeds which they have done aforetime. There is nothing shown us or taught us but what is good. We get our Victuals more comfortable.

No. 28. *B. E.*

Name?—B. E.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Charged with stealing a Sovereign in a Public House.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Prison Three Months.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in for an Assault, Two Years ago, for Five Months.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was a deal of sinning, cursing, and gambling, and cheating Boys out of their Loaves. There was both fighting and quarrelling.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I am a deal comfortabler now than I was then; my Mess is not robbed, and better looked after. I have no Doubt many a one was transported who would not have been had these new Rules been in force.

(*November 4th*, 1834.)

No. 29. *B. F.*

Name?—B. F.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Assault with Intent to commit a Rape.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Prison Eighteen Months.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—Was Eleven Months under the old System. I have seen when a Man has not had a Dinner for a Week; he sold it for a Penny or Two-pence, to gamble with. The strongest got the Fire. I have seen fighting.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be under the new System. It is a deal better for People who wish to be at peace. There is no Disputes going on. There is no selling or trucking; what there is for a Man he gets it: he would go out a better Man.

(*December 9th*, 1834.)

No. 30. *B. G.*

Name?—B. G.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Street Robbery.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Prison Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Convicted of same Offence Fifteen Months since.

If

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was some very brutish Work before; some were good and some were bad. The Sheffield People were the worst; they used to be teazing the Leeds Men; they fought the Leeds Men; they mostly fell out about buying the Bread. I have known a Man a Week or Fortnight without Supper.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now, because there is no bullying or fighting. We have our Victuals more comfortable. I was sent here innocent at first, and could not sleep for many a Night. They said, "Here comes a Flat," and plagued me, and by Degrees put me up to all their Deeds. I went out a worse Man than I came in. If the present System had been then, I should have gone out as I came in; I should not have known any thing bad. I used not to go to Chapel once in a Year; I had now rather go than not.

No. 31. *B. H.*

Name?—B. H.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing a Watch and receiving stolen Goods.

How long been in Prison; and if ever been in Prison before?—Been in twice for Assaults, and once as Vagrant, and twice for Felony. I have known the Prison Four Years.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—Some used to behave well and some ill. The ———— and —— Men were worst. There was much fighting, gambling, and cursing and swearing, and Pocket-picking. If a Flat came in, the other Prisoners got round him and tried to rob him.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I was before, because there was more Meat, Tobacco, and Milk, and we should have the Liberty to talk.

No. 32. *B. I.*

Name?—B. I.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing Hay.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Five Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been in once before for Assault, Two Months, a Year ago.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There was a deal of swearing; and because I would have no Concern with them they flogged me with a Towel.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather it was as it is now, because I am not bullied.

No. 33. *B. K.*

Name?—B. K.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing Shoes.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been in twice before, both Times for Assault.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard of the Goings-on formerly.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think it better as it is now than when they used to be cursing and fighting and robbing.

Mem.—This Man has been in Prison Seven Months, at Three separate Times, under the new System. He has no Home and no Friends to go to on leaving the Prison. Seems desirous of earning an honest Livelihood if he could be put in the Way of one.

No. 34. *B. L.*

Name?—B. L.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing a Coat.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Prison Five Weeks on this Charge.

If ever been in Prison before?—Have been in Prison once before for a Trespass.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I feel a Stranger here; I know nobody and nobody knows me, and I do not wish any one to know me. I had therefore rather be as I am.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 35. *B. M.*

Name?—B. M.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Charged with receiving stolen Gin.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Eight or Nine Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Convicted before of Felony, Seven or Eight Years since.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—It used to be a very bad Life. They used to talk of what Thefts they would do when they got out. I heard Two Men, Fowles and White, make up a Robbery while in Prison, to rob an old Shoemaker at Castley. They are both transported, and I believe for that Robbery. They said, in Prison, that they would get the Shoemaker's Apprentice connected with them, which they did, and the Apprentice was transported with them. There used to be all Sorts of Robbery and Wickedness.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am; I am well satisfied with the Privileges belonging to the Prison. There is more Peace and Contentment. I have more Opportunities of reading.

No. 36. *B. N.*

Name?—B. N.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Pocket-picking.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in twice before, Felony; once for Vagrancy and once for Housebreaking. It is Two Years since I first came here.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be a deal of cursing and swearing and robbing each other.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now. The Messes are better and cleaner. I have read more the last Month than ever I did in my Life before; I mean the Testament. I have great Delight in it; it makes me a better Man, and I hope I shall become a better Man. If we had been under the same System at first, I should not have been here now.

No. 37. *B. O.*

Name?—B. O.
Residence and Trade?—Has been a Gentleman's Servant.
Offence charged?—Stealing Boots.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Five Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—Have no Knowledge of what a Prison was under the old System, but I had rather have no Communication with other Prisoners, because no one knows me, or I them. I expect to be acquitted of the Charge, and my Friends can never know that I have been disgraced by being here. I am glad to have the Opportunity of reading.

No. 38. *B. P.*

Name?—B. P.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Watch from the Person.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Week.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in any Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am, because I cannot be taught what is bad. I value the Opportunity of reading the Testament.

No. 39. *B. Q.*

Name?—B. Q.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Assault. Stealing from the Person.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Fortnight.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in once before for an Assault, and once for Felony, but not convicted, Three Years and Eighteen Months since.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I never saw any Thing wrong in the Prison.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I used to be. A Man now never knows when he is doing right. There was a deal more Comfort before; a Man could speak and open his Mind. Cannot read.

No. 40. *B. R.*

Name?—B. R.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Robbing from the Person.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Five Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I know nothing that is bad, and I don't want to know. I had as leave be as I am now.

No. 41. *B. S.*

Name?—B. S.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Highway Robbery.
How long been in Prison?—Been in about Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now, because if I was allowed to talk and go, I should be liable to all Sorts of Lies, Sin, and Wickedness. I read my Testament whenever I have an Opportunity.

No. 42. *B. T.*

Name?—B. T.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Hens.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Three Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now. I do not wish to do any bad Tricks any more, and for that Reason I do not want to have any Talk with any of them.

No. 43. *B. U.*

Name?—B. U.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Housebreaking.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in Five Times for Felony, and twice convicted. The first Time was Three Years since.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be a deal of swearing and fighting.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be under the old System.

No. 44. *B. V.*

Name?—B. V.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Coat, &c.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Ten Days.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in twice before, once Assault, One Year ago, and once Misdemeanor.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be tossing for Halfpence, and cursing.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now, because they cannot go on the same Way.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 45. *B. W.*

Name?—B. W.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Receiving stolen Goods.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Fortnight.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—When I was in Leeds Prison, the Conversation was shocking. I thought if the same Rules were carried on there as at Wakefield it would have been much better.

No. 46. *B. X.*

Name?—B. X.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Shirt.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Ten Days.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think it much better to be in a Prison where Prisoners cannot talk or do Mischief.

No. 47. *B. Y.*

Name?—B. Y.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Burglary.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Five Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Eight or Nine Years since I was here for fighting.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be some swearing and fighting.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I was before, because I could talk. I have a Son of Thirteen Years of Age, if he should have the Misfortune to be sent here, I had rather he was under the present System, because he would be taught nothing wrong.

No. 48. *B. Z.*

Name?—B. Z.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing a Cap.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Week.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had sooner be as I am, because I am not used to associate with Rogues. My Friends cannot know that I am here.

No. 49. *C. C.*

Name?—C. C.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Pocket-picking.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Three Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now.

No. 50. *C. D.*

Name?—C. D.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Pocket-picking.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Month.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather be as I am now; I do not wish to learn any thing bad. I have read my Testament through since I have been in Prison; I very much value the Opportunity of reading it.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 51. *C. E.*

Name?—C. E.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Poaching.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Eleven Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in Prison Four Times before for Poaching.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be very bad Conduct. I have seen Prisoners take Things out of other Prisoners Pockets. A deal of fighting and a very deal of gambling. If a weak Man wanted to get to the Fire he would get a black Eye. If a Prisoner broke through Rules which they established amongst each other, he was flogged by his fellow Prisoners round the Pillar. I have flogged many a one myself with a Whip made of Ropes. They used to rob each other of their Messes.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—It is a deal comfortabler now for old Men. We used to take no notice of coming here when our Friends could bring us what we wanted. I think it is more likely to stop such Offences now than before.

(*March 18th*, 1835.)

No. 52. *C. F.*

Name?—C. F.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Potatoes.
How long been in Prison?—Been Ten Weeks in Prison.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never been imprisoned before, or before a Justice before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard tell it was poor Deeds here formerly.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think it is of great Use to a Man being quiet here; it brings them more to their Behaviour. There are Men who would not care what they said or what they did if they were not strictly looked after.

No. 53. *C. G.*

Name?—C. G.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Fowls.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before, or before a Justice before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I do not know what the Conduct of Prisoners used to be under the old System, but I should think the present System was better for me.

No. 54. *C. H.*

Name?—C. H.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Receiving stolen Goods.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Seven Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Was in this Prison Five Years since, under Trespass Act.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—The Conduct of Prisoners used to be very indifferent; there used to be gambling, swearing, and Ill-treatment amongst each other.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think it far better at present; we are all at peace. I read my Testament more than ever I did.

No. 55. *C. I.*

Name?—C. I.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Robbing a Mill.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard tell that there used to be all Kind of Vice carried on here.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had rather it was as it is now. I had much rather be as I am now. It makes me reflect, and determine on being steady when I go out. I read my Testament now more than I ever did in my Life before.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 56. *C. K.*

Name?—C. K.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Assault and Robbery from the Person.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in twice before: first, Nine or Ten Years since, for Fowl-stealing; second, Three or Four Years since, for stealing Iron.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—The Conversation used to be entirely of what future Robberies we could commit, and all Sorts of Things that were wrong.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I am certain if we had the same Discipline then that I should not have been here now.

No. 57. *C. L.*

Name?—C. L.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Linen set out to dry.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think it is better that all Roguishness should be stopt, and that therefore it is better we should not talk.

No. 58. *C. M.*

Name?—C. M.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Pawning a Plane.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Seven Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Never in Prison before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—I have heard the Conduct of Prisoners used to be very bad.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—It is a deal stricter now. I had rather it was as it is now. There is no bad Discourse. I read my Testament. I am sure I shall never come here again.

No. 59. *C. N.*

Name?—C. N.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Stealing Silk Handkerchiefs from a Shop.
How long been in Prison?—Been in Prison Five Weeks.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been in Five Times before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be gambling and fighting. I got to know a Number of bad Characters, which made me so that I never would go to my Work afterwards, and I have associated with them ever since.
If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think the present System best for a Man when he first comes here, and for the Boys; it would most likely have been better for me. I had rather be as I was before, because we had better Food and Tobacco, and I had rather talk; but I think, for a steady Man, it is better as it is.

No. 60. *C. O.*

Name?—C. O.
Residence and Trade?—
Offence charged?—Housebreaking.
How long been in Prison?—Been in a Week.
If ever been in Prison before?—Been here twice before.
If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System; and if so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I should never have been here but for ————, who used to pine us and send us out to steal. A Fellow Prisoner, who was discharged the same Day with me, persuaded me to go with him to ————. I am very comfortable as I am now. I know the Laws.

No. 1. Questions put to Unconvicted Prisoners at Wakefield, and their Answers thereto.

No. 61. *C. P.*

Name?—C. P.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Housebreaking.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been here Three Times; first Time Twelve Months since.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—It used to be rough Work; gambling, swearing, &c.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I had as leave have it as it is now, it is quieter. I should not like to come back again.

No. 62. *C. Q.*

Name?—C. Q.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing a Child's Carriage from a Yard.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Six Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been here twice before; first Time in 1832, when the Cholera was so bad, for Felony.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—There used to be fighting, swearing, and gambling; it was sometimes rough Work. I never was in bad Company 'till I came here, except for an Hour or Two at my first Offence, and I attribute all my Misfortunes to having been here. I found some bad Company, which led me into further Trouble.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I am sure I should never have fallen into the same Faults if we had had Silence at first. This will be a Warning to me, and I will keep good Company in future. I will not go back to ——, but would wish to get back to my Mother to ————; she is a decent, honest Woman. I am very anxious to read and study my Testament.

No. 63. *C. R.*

Name?—C. R.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Highway Robbery.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Three Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been here once before for poaching at ————, Three Months, Four or Five Years since.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—Used to be gambling, fighting, &c. &c.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I went out a worse Man than I came in. I had as leave have it as it is now, because we are quieter.

No. 64. *C. S.*

Name?—C. S.

Residence and Trade?—

Offence charged?—Stealing Tools.

How long been in Prison?—Been in Nine Weeks.

If ever been in Prison before?—Been here once before for Misdemeanor, Six Years since.

If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners under the old System?—It used to be very unquiet.

If so, would you prefer the present System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix as before in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?—I think it a deal better now. There is nothing bad to be learnt now, and there used to be nothing good. If I had used the Opportunity of reading the Testament I have now, I should never have been here now.

No. 2. Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank.

No. 2.

Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank.

Die Veneris, 10° *Aprilis* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Their Lordships proceeded to the Penitentiary, Milbank, where the following Prisoners were examined in their Cells, but not upon Oath.

No. 1.

You have been confined here above Twelve Months?—Yes.

To what Gaol were you committed?—The Worcester County Gaol in Worcester.

Were you ever before convicted?—No.

How long were you in Gaol before you were tried?—Five Weeks; not quite Five Weeks.

Were you allowed to communicate with other Prisoners during that Period?—Yes.

What was the Sort of Language and Conversation of the Prisoners with whom you were classed?—Different Things.

Bad?—Not altogether; sometimes.

There were Men for various Offences?—Yes.

Were there Boys confined with you?—No; no Boys at the Time I was there.

Was there a Regulation enacting Silence?—Yes, we were bound to keep Silence; if there was any thing out of the way there was an Officer to look round.

Do you believe that Persons committed before Trial in general would prefer being separated to being with others of worse Character?—I should think so; I think it much better so.

Do you think that the Prisoners learn any good from one another?—No, I am perfectly satisfied they do not.

Did they talk of their old Exploits?—Yes. I think it is better for every Prisoner to be kept separately.

You would prefer being by yourself, that you might not be obliged to hear the bad Language of other Prisoners?—I am sure in this Place if I were with others I should not be near so contented as I am; you might not get One out of Fifty to be of the same Opinion as me; I consider it as such, according to my Opinion.

No. 2. Has been in the Penitentiary but a short Time.

To what Gaol were you committed?—Newgate.

Were you ever before in Prison?—No.

For what Offence were you convicted?—For stealing a Quarter of Oats; they were left for me, I did not steal them.

You were found guilty of receiving them knowing them to be stolen?—Yes.

What was your Situation in Life?—I was ——————————————————; they were left, and they found them on me.

At the Time you were in Newgate were you exposed to hearing a great deal of bad Language from Persons who were confined in the same Place with yourself?—Some bad, and some the other way.

Should you have preferred being in a Place where you could not have heard the bad Language of your Fellow Prisoners?—I should not wish to be where there is bad Language; that is no good to me.

Did you hear any bad Language there?—I have at times.

Did the Prisoners ill-treat their Fellow Prisoners?—No.

Did you ever see them rob one another?—I did not see it; they did do it sometimes.

Do you think a Man is made much better by living with those Sort of People in Prison previous to Trial?—I think he is better away from such People as they.

Do you prefer being separated here, where Silence is enforced, to being exposed to the Conversation of the Men you were confined with in Newgate?—I would rather be in Silence than hear bad Language.

Did you ever hear the Prisoners speak of the Robberies they had committed?—Yes.

Were Boys placed in the same Cells and Yards with you?—Yes; Boys and Men altogether.

Do you think that the Language you heard in Newgate Prison before your Trial would do you any good?—No.

No. 2. Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank.

No. 3.

You have been confined here above Twelve Months?—Yes.

To what Prison were you committed?—Stafford Gaol.

Of what Offence were you convicted?—Taking Two Hats from another Workman.

How long were you in Stafford Gaol before your Trial?—About a Fortnight; it might be a Day or Two over; I am not certain.

Were you confined before Trial with other Prisoners?—Yes.

What Sort of Language did they hold to one another?—Different Languages.

Some bad?—Yes, some bad and some good; generally speaking I think it was bad.

Did you hear them talk of the Robberies they committed before?—Very seldom.

But you have heard them talk of their former Robberies?—Yes.

Have you heard them say what they should do when restored to Liberty?—Some said they would reform, others said they would not; there were different Characters.

Were Boys confined in the same Wards with you?—No, in separate Places for them.

Was Silence enforced?—Yes, very strictly.

Before Trial?—Yes.

You did speak, however, though Silence was ordered?—Yes, we did it; there is no use to talk and tell Lies about it; we did.

You did not do so so much as if that Regulation had not existed?—The Turnkeys were about; they would have talked more if they could.

You had some Conversation?—Yes.

From what you have seen would you prefer being committed for Trial where Silence is enforced previous to Trial, or where it is not?—I can hardly give a decisive Answer on that Subject, what to say on that Point; it is a hard Case for a Prisoner to be shut up, entirely confined, and not to be able to speak to any one.

Do you think he gets much good from Conversation with other Prisoners?—It depends on Circumstances, whether he gives due Attention to what he hears; some give due Attention, perhaps they would learn and delight in hearing those Sort of Things talked about. Others may listen, and yet not give Attention. I never was in Prison before that.

How old are you?—In my Thirty-fifth Year.

No. 4.

How old are you?—Eighteen.

Where were you committed from?—From Liverpool.

From what Gaol?—From Caglar House of Correction.

Was that the first Time you ever were in Prison?—Yes.

Of what were you convicted?—Of breaking into an Office.

When you were committed to the House of Correction with whom did you associate? Were you placed with other Prisoners?—Yes.

Were you allowed to speak?—Yes.

To any of your Fellow Prisoners?—Yes.

What Sort of Language was used?—Good and bad of all Sorts.

Do you think what you heard was likely to be of Service to you?—No.

Did they talk of the Robberies they had committed?—Some of them, yes.

Did some of them speak of what they would do when they were discharged?—I never was among them; the Governor of the Prison allowed me to be seen by my Parents twice a Day; the others were not; he allowed me more Liberties than the others.

Do you think you learnt any thing from the Prisoners that would tend to your Reformation?—No; but I don't expect to get into the same Course again.

What induced you to commit the Offence for which you are now imprisoned?—Bad Company. I got out of work among ————————. I worked hard for my Living before then. I fell into the Company of a School Companion once, and that led me to do this, and I got taken up for it.

No. 5.

How old are you?—I don't know.

Are you Sixteen?—No, I don't think I be.

From what Gaol were you sent here?—From Exeter Gaol.

From the Town Gaol of Exeter?—Yes.

What were you convicted of?—Stealing a Watch.

From a Shop?—No; out of a private Window.

Was that the first Time you were ever in Prison?—Yes.

When you were committed were there many Prisoners in the same Ward with yourself?—No; there was Four that were tried with us, but they were in the Transport Yard.

Were you placed in Prison with others?—Yes.

What Sort of Conversation did they have one with another; was it bad Language?—No.

No. 2. Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank.

Did they speak of former Robberies?—No.
Were you allowed to speak to other Prisoners?—Yes.
As much as you pleased?—Yes, but not loud.
Do you think you learned any good in that Prison before Trial?—No.
Did you learn any bad?—I learned rather bad than good.
Were you told by other Prisoners that what you had done was not as wrong as you now know it to have been?—Yes.
Should you prefer the Gaol at Exeter to a Prison where you would not have been obliged to listen to the bad Language of other Prisoners?—There at Exeter.
Were you allowed to play?—Yes.
And to talk, but not loud?—Yes.
Would you rather be by yourself or with others?—Rather be with the others.

No. 6. Has been in the Penitentiary above Two Years.

From what Prison were you sent here?—From the Hulks.
From what Prison were you sent to the Hulks?—From the Borough Gaol of Carmarthen.
For what Offence were you convicted?—For Sacrilege.
Was it the first Time you were in Prison?—Yes.
What induced you to commit the Offence?—Bad Company.
Whom had you been living with; young Men of your own Age who seduced you into the Commission of the Offence?—There were; they were not Partners with me in this Crime.
How old are you?—Twenty.
How many Prisoners were there in the Gaol when you were first committed?—Only One.
Were you put in the same Room with him?—I was.
What Sort of a Man was he; was his Conversation proper?—Yes; a very good and a very civil Man.
Did he tell you what he was in for?—Yes.
What Sort of Persons were your Fellow Prisoners in the Hulks?—Some of them were very bad.
Was their Language very bad?—Yes, very bad.
Do you believe that if you had remained in the Hulks that you could have become a better Man?—No, I never could have become better.
From the bad Language you heard?—Yes.
Did the Prisoners in the Hulks laugh at Religion?—Some of them; some appeared very civil there.
Some of them were very much the other way?—Yes.
Do you think you would have reformed if you had remained in the Hulks?—I think I should have come out worse than I went in.
How long were you in the Hulks?—About Three Days.
You were removed from the Hulks as your own Request and at that of your Friends?—Yes.
They were anxious to get you here, thinking bad Company would do you Harm in the Hulks?—All the Gentlemen in the County did.
Are you grateful to them for having got you out of the Hulks?—Yes, I am thankful to them.
What is the Part of your Confinement here the most irksome to you; is it the Silence which is maintained?—No, I don't wish to talk.
You would rather not hear the bad Language of others; is that the Reason you don't wish to talk?—I never heard no bad Language in this Place.
They do talk to one another?—Yes, the Instructors.
But any body else?—Very little.
What Part of the Discipline here do you dislike the most?—I don't dislike nothing of the Regulations of the Place.

No. 7. Has been in the Penitentiary since 1833.

Where do you come from?—Odiham.
Of what Offence were you convicted?—Five Shillings.
For stealing Five Shillings?—Yes.
How old are you?—About Fourteen.
To what Gaol were you committed?—Winchester.
Were there many other Prisoners in the same Place when you were committed?—No.
How many?—Three Men.
Were you permitted to talk to them as much as you pleased?—Yes.
What Sort of Conversation took place?—I don't know; baddish.
Did they talk about former Robberies?—Yes.
Was that the first Time you were ever in Trouble?—Yes.
Do you think you learnt any good by what you heard in the Prison at Winchester?—Yes.

What

337

No. 2. Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank.

What did you learn; did you learn to feel that you had done wrong?—Yes.
Did your Fellow Prisoners tell you you had done wrong?—Yes.
Did they swear?—Yes, they did.
Were there Day Rooms in that Prison?—Yes.
Which do you prefer, being here or in the Prison at Winchester?—Here.
Why?—It is a better Place.
Could you read and write when you were first committed to Prison?—No.
Are you now taught to read and write?—Yes.

[The Prisoner's Copy Book was produced.]

Is this your Copy Book?—Yes.
Can you now read?—Yes.
Do you read these Books?—Yes.
Were you, before you were first committed, aware of the Punishment which bad Men must expect in the World to come?—No.
Had you ever been to Church?—Yes.
You had not then paid Attention to the Clergyman?—No.
Does the Chaplain visit you here?—Yes.
Could you say your Prayers before you were first committed to Gaol?—No.
Is your Father an Agricultural Labourer with a large Family?—Yes; he has Ten Children.
Does he receive Relief from the Parish?—Yes.
When you committed the Offence of which you were found guilty were you aware that you were violating the Laws of God and Man?—No.
Are you now conscious of the Crime you committed?—Yes.
What induced you to take the Five Shillings?—My Father had no Money.
Where did you take it from?—The Man's House.
Did your Father tell you to take it?—No.
Were there any others concerned in the Robbery with you?—Yes, one.
He would have had a Share of the Money?—Yes.
Was he a bigger Boy than you are?—Yes, a bigger Boy.
Had he been in Prison before?—I don't know.

No. 8. Has been in the Penitentiary since last Year.

Where were you committed to?—To the Prison at Bath.
What was your Offence?—Stealing a Hand of Pork.
What induced you to do it?—I don't know.
Were you confined with other Prisoners?—Yes.
How often have you been committed to Gaol?—Twice.
What had you been sent for before?—For stealing some Apples.
What Prison were you sent to the first Time?—Shepton Mallett.
When committed to Shepton Mallett were you confined alone or with others?—With Boys; it is a Schoolhouse; it was kept as a Schoolroom in the Wards; they are not kept with the Men.
They are kept separate?—Yes.
What was the Sort of Language of those Boys, bad or good?—I don't know I am sure.
For how long a Term of Imprisonment were you sentenced for your First Offence?—Three Months.
This Punishment did not reform you?—No.
How soon after the first Punishment did you commit the Offence for which you are now suffering?—I don't know; a great while.
In Shepton Mallett did the Chaplain visit you?—Yes, he came every Monday to hear us say our Catechism.
You were tried at Wilton?—Yes, at Wilton, where the Assizes are held. I had Sentence passed on me, and then I waited till I came here.
When you were committed for the Second Offence, to what Gaol were you sent?—Shepton Mallett.
You have been in Shepton Mallett Gaol twice then?—Yes.
When you went back a Second Time were you put with the same Boys you were put with the First Time?—I don't know, some of them were there the same.
How old are you?—Thirteen.
Did you go to any School?—No.
Could you say your Prayers before you were first sent to Prison?—No.
Can you now?—Yes.
Were you allowed to speak to the other Boys?—We were in the Ward altogether.
How old were they?—Fifteen and Sixteen, little and big.
Do you think the little Boys learnt much from the big Boys?—I don't know.
Did they not learn much Mischief?—I don't know about that.
Did not they the first Time wonder you had not stolen something of more Value than Apples?—I can't tell.

No. 2. Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Milbank.

No. 9. Committed in 1834.

From what Gaol were you brought to this Penitentiary?—Norfolk.

How old are you?—Fifteen Years last Month.

Is your Father and Mother living?—No, both dead.

Who took care of you?—My Grandfather as long as he lived, and then I was put into the Workhouse.

For what Offence were you convicted?—I lived along with a Farmer, and he sent me to a Place for some Money, and I ran away with it.

What induced you to run away with it, did any Person persuade you?—No.

What did you intend to do when you ran away with the Money?—I don't know.

What Gaol were you committed to?—Swaffham.

Were you placed with other Persons in a Ward?—There were Three Boys, Two Boys together.

What had they been sent to Gaol for?—One for Housebreaking.

Was that the first Time you were ever in Prison?—Yes.

Were you ever in Trouble before?—Yes, I have been in Trouble.

What was it?—For robbing an Orchard.

Were you sent to Prison for robbing the Orchard?—No.

Did your Employer whip you?—No.

Did he not punish you at all?—Yes, he went up to the Justices; that was all.

Did they not think the Case proved?—They forgave me that Time.

How long after did you run away with the Money?—Four Months after.

How long was it before you were tried?—Five Weeks.

During those Five Weeks do you think, from the Language you heard, supposing you had been acquitted, you would have gone out of Gaol a better Boy than when you went in?—Yes, a great deal.

Why?—Because of the Punishment.

Do you think the Conversation you heard from the Boys who were with you did you any good?—No.

What did they generally talk about?—They never talked any good.

Did you see the Chaplain during that Time?—Yes.

Could you read and write when you were sent to Prison?—I could not write.

Could you say your Prayers?—Yes.

You did not?—No.

Was the Boy confined with you on the Charge of Housebreaking an older Boy than yourself?—Yes; about Seventeen.

Had he ever been there before?—No, not before.

Did he tell you to take care not to come there again?—Yes; he said he would not.

Did he say he would leave off thieving?—Yes.

No. 10. Has been in the Penitentiary since 1834.

To what Prison were you committed?—To Springfield, near Chelmsford.

Was that the first Time you had been in Trouble?—Yes.

For what Offence were you convicted?—I was tried on a Charge of Burglary, but I had nothing to do with it; but that is nothing to the Purpose.

You were convicted of Burglary?—Yes.

When you were sent to Springfield, were you placed with other Prisoners?—Yes.

How many?—I can't say; I suppose there were Fourteen or Fifteen in the Day Room, but they were confined separately at Night; that was previously to the Trial; and some of the Cells, before the Trial, had Four or Five together in the Cell; after the Trial they were in separate Cells.

Before the Trial were you allowed to speak to each other?—Yes.

What was the Nature of the Conversation that took place?—The general Tenor of the Conversation was what they had done, and what they intended to do when they got out.

For good or for evil?—Just so.

For both?—Yes; some said, I am extremely sorry so and so, and when I return Home I will go to my Work; others said they should do otherwise; and those who were bad Characters would go to those who were quite simple, and instruct them how to go about Business. I have little Doubt that many Robberies, a great Number of them, their Plans were formed in Prison, and then they would get it executed.

Was the Language you heard before the Trial good or bad?—I had not much Opportunity. I was taken down on Tuesday and I was tried on the Wednesday; the Language I did hear was not of any thing good.

Were young Persons confined in the same Room, previous to Trial?—Yes.

After Conviction to what Prison were you committed?—To Springfield Gaol; it is termed a Convict Gaol; it was erected for the Purpose of confining Prisoners instead of sending them out of the Country, similar to this.

After your Sentence you returned to Springfield?—Yes.

With

With whom were you then confined?—I was placed in the Wheel Yard, and there the Convicts who had been tried and found guilty were, some for Three, Four, and Six Months, and various Periods of Imprisonment.

Altogether?—Yes.

What was the Language you heard in that Ward?—Extremely bad; there was nothing continuing from Morning to Night but blaspheming, and quarrelling with each other, and pilfering; the Provisions were short, and they stole the Provisions from one another; it was delivered out, and if a Man put any thing down it was a Chance if ever he saw it again.

What was your Sentence?—Death recorded; Transportation for Life; afterwards it was mitigated for Seven Years.

From what you know of the Discipline of the Prison at Springfield, and the Practice of enforcing Silence here, which do you prefer?—I should decidedly give Preference to a Place like this; and my own Opinion is, that even solitary Confinement, with a little Allowance of Meat we have, would conduce more to a Prisoner's Reformation.

Were you allowed to speak to one another at Springfield?—Yes; at Springfield there is no Constraint whatever; a Man might converse as he liked.

You were allowed to speak on any Subject you thought fit?—Yes.

When you came out of it you do not think you came out a better Man than when you went in?—In some respects; I devoted a good deal of my Time to reading my Bible; though I have been a great Reprobate, I had better Sense than to listen to all that went forward.

What induced you to commit the Offence for which you were found guilty?—I am not the Person; I was one of the Parties who did commit it; the other was a Schoolfellow of mine. I have indulged in very bad Habits, such as drinking, and going with loose Females, no further. He was a Schoolfellow. We had been drinking on the previous Night, having been up all Night drinking. In the Morning he was about throwing a small Pot away. I believe that was found in my Possession, and the Jury brought me in guilty.

That was Part of the Property that had been stolen?—Yes; but if I had been aware it had been stolen, as he was in Custody an Hour before I was taken, I could have destroyed it by stamping it under my Feet.

You knew he had committed the Robbery?—I did not till afterwards, or I should not have kept it in my Possession: I knew too much of the World for that.

You think the Discipline in the Prison at Springfield is not such as would make any Man better?—Many a Lad went in there on the most trivial Charge, and went out a confirmed and complete Villain.

Those Men, for example, who were there for Three Months, for comparatively minor Offences, associated with Men who were sentenced by Law to be transported?—Yes.

And they were allowed to communicate with one another as much as they thought fit?—Yes, exactly, there was no Restraint, they were put in the Yard together and brought down. They kept on so many on the Wheel, and so many were to keep off. There was no one to look over us. We had free Communication, and we got off the Wheel when we liked. Sometimes the Turnkey would call out that there was not the Number, and he would threaten to stop our Bread and Cheese at Night. That was all the Constraint we had.

Do you know, from what you saw of the Prison, that it did not seem an Object of Dread?—Some, if put under proper Restraint, would have reformed. I know that, not only from my own Observation, but from what I heard from others, who stated that they had been convicted on various trivial Charges, and when they came to be transported they reflected upon it. I have heard them state, that if they had been properly checked, and had received Punishment, they would never have committed the Crime they were going to leave the Country for.

You have heard them complain that they were not sufficiently punished at first?—Some of them, not all.

Could you read and write when first committed?—Yes.

For what Period do you expect to be confined?—I was put in this Prison for Three Years on condition that I behaved myself.

What Sort of Bevaviour is expected from you to enable you to procure your Discharge at the Expiration of Three Years?—We have a general Rule to go by, Obedience to our Overseers, strict Attention to what the Chaplain advises, and we receive Directions to work, and not to communicate with one another.

No. 11. Committed in 1834.

Of what Offence were you convicted?—Highway Robbery.

Was that the first Time you ever were in Trouble?—Yes.

To what Gaol were you committed?—The County Gaol at Nottingham.

How long did you remain in Gaol before Trial?—Seven Weeks.

How old are you?—Twenty-two.

When you were sent to Nottingham Gaol were you placed in the first instance with other Prisoners?—Yes, with Five others.

What were they there for?—They were transported.

Had they all been sentenced to Transportation?—Yes.

Were you kept with them?—Yes.

Did you learn much good from them?—No, I did not.

Was their Language very bad?—Yes; they went on and did as they liked.

No. 2. Examinations taken at the Penitentiary, Millbank.

Was Silence kept?—No.
Nor ordered?—No.
Were they employed at hard Labour?—No.
Did you exercise in the same Yard?—Yes; a large Yard.
How many were there together?—Sometimes more, and sometimes less; they kept bringing them in before Trial.
You were placed, before Trial, with Persons who had been sentenced?—Yes.
Were they allowed to receive Provisions from their Friends?—Yes, any thing but Ale or Beer.
Did they talk of the Robberies that they had committed?—They used to talk of what they had done, and such like.
Did they laugh at you when you first came in?—Yes; they used to laugh at me when I first came in.
What for?—I said I was innocent, and I am now, and they used to laugh.
They did not believe you?—No.
Was there any gambling?—When there was no Officer there they used to play, they used to toss.
Was there a Chaplain to the Gaol?—Yes. He used to go every other Morning and read the Prayers.
Could you read and write, and say your Prayers, when committed?—Yes.
For what Period are you to remain here?—Seven Years.
What led you to the Commission of the Crime for which you are now suffering?—It was on a Holiday that it happened.

No. 12. Committed in 1834.

From what Prison were you sent here?—Nottingham.
For what were you sent here?—For a Spree.
For Burglary?—Yes, Burglary.
With whom were you confined?—Along with the rest of the Prisoners.
Who were they?—Some were sentenced to Transportation.
Convicts?—Yes.
Was the Language bad amongst those Prisoners?—Yes, sometimes.
After you were tried were you put back again into the same Yard?—Yes.
Were Persons untried and tried with you after you had been sentenced?—Yes, they were all put together.
Was Silence ordered there?—No, nothing particular; no Order kept.
Did you work on the Treadmill?—No, it was the County Gaol.
Were the Prisoners before Trial, and Convicts, all put together?—Yes.
Could you read and write when first sent to Prison?—Yes.
Was the Conversation of your Fellow Prisoners such as to induce you to believe that they intended to reform?—No.
Did they speak of the Robberies they had committed?—Yes, every thing of that Sort.
They did not appear to be penitent?—No, not at all.
Was that the first Time you were ever in Trouble?—Yes.
How long were you there before you were tried?—Six Weeks.
You saw every Week fresh Prisoners come in?—Yes.
Was any thing said to them by other Prisoners to harden them, or that they were foolish in having been found out?—Yes, they talked of Things of that Sort.
Was there a good deal of swearing?—Yes, all Sorts of Language going on.
Were Bibles and other Books given you?—No.
Did the Prisoners laugh at Religion?—Yes, they made game of it.
If a Man had been inclined to be religious would he have been laughed at?—Yes, they all would have laughed at him.
As far as your Opinion goes, a Man would not come out of that Gaol better than when he went in?—No; a great deal worse.
How long were you kept there after you were convicted?—Six Weeks.
Was there any Difference in the Conduct of the Prisoners after Conviction from what it was before Trial?—Not any Difference.
Not from the Terror of the Punishment to which they had been sentenced?—No; they did not seem to take any Notice of it.

The Clerk of the Committee was directed to write to the Gaoler of the Nottingham County Gaol to inquire if No. 11 and No. 12 were confined before Trial with Prisoners under Sentence; and the following is a Copy of the Reply received:

"Sir, Nottingham County Gaol, 18th April 1835.

"I beg leave to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter inquiring if No. 11 and No. 12 were confined before Trial in the same Wards with Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation. I beg to say, that No. 11 was for a short Time confined in the same Yard with , a Convict, from unavoidable Necessity, there being at the Time but *Two Yards* capable of being occupied with Safety. No. 12 was in the Hospital with Two Convicts, but the Size of the Hospital Ward does not admit of Classification.

(Signed) "Rd. B. Brierley, Gaoler."

No. 3.

Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in the Penitentiary, Milbank.

Die Veneris, 1° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

THE Lord in the Chair delivers in to the Committee the following Paper, which is read; viz.

Questions put to Prisoners in the Penitentiary, Milbank, with their Replies, but not upon Oath.

Question 1.—Name?

2.—Age?

3.—From what Prison?

4.—How long in Prison before Trial?

5.—For what Offence committed?

6.—What was your Sentence?

7.—If ever in Prison before?

8.—If aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners where Silence is not maintained?

9.—If so, would you prefer the System of total Silence, or be at liberty to mix, as before, in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners?

10.—Could you read and write before you were sent to the Penitentiary?

Index of Places from whence the Prisoners examined were sent to the Penitentiary.

Aberdeen	Page 22	Glasgow Bridewell	Page 31	Lichfield	Page 44
Aylesbury	22	Gloucester	32	Lincoln	44. 45
Ayr	31	Great Stukeley	32	Maidstone	46
Banbury	23	Guildford	32	Monmouth	46
Beccles	40	Hereford	33	Montgomery	47
Bedford	22	Hertford	33	Nairn	47
Brecon	25	Horsemonger Lane	34. 35	Newcastle upon Tyne	51
Bristol	23	Horsham	34	Newgate	36. 38. 39
Bury St. Edmonds	23	Hulks:		Newport, Isle of Wight	50
Cambridge	25	Hull (Kingston on)	35	Northampton	49
Canterbury	26	Cumberland	35. 57	Norwich	49
Cardiff	24	Discovery	25. 46	Nottingham	48
Carlisle	25	Euryalus	36	Oxford	51
Carmarthen	25. 36	Fortitude	36. 48	Perth	53
Chester	24	Ganymede	27. 36. 50	Preston	52
Clerkenwell Prison	54. 55	Justitia	37. 43. 51	Salisbury	49
Coventry	26	Leviathan	38. 49	Shepton Mallett	39
Derby	27	Retribution	46	Shrewsbury	54
Dorchester	28	York	38. 50	Skirbeck	45
Dover	27	Ilchester	39	South Hill	50
Dumfermline	28	Ipswich	40	Spalding	45
Dundee	28	Inverness	42	Springfield	55
Durham	29	Jedburgh	37. 41	Stafford	53
Edinburgh	29	Kirkdale	42	Swaffham	49
Ely	30	Knutsford	24	Usk	46
Exeter	30	Lancaster Castle	43	Warwick	56
Flint	31	Leicester	43	Worcester	54
Folkingham	44	Lewes	34	York Castle	57
Glasgow Gaol	31				

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

——— ——— (*Aberdeen.*)

Is Twenty-three Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 6th February 1833 from Aberdeen Gaol; was tried at Aberdeen on the 27th September 1832, convicted of "Theft by Housebreaking," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; he asserts this to be his First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was Three Months in Banff Gaol before Trial; was placed in a Cell by himself the whole of that Time, and was only let out during Meal-times, which he took with the Debtors; had no Exercise except what he took by walking about in his Cell; this Cell had no more Light than was admitted through a Loop-hole between Four and Five Inches wide, and about a Foot in Length; the Door, which was of Wood lined with Sheet Iron, was constantly kept shut; there was a Privy in the Cell; he was obliged to find his Bed and Bedding, and only received 3*d.* per Diem to buy Provisions, but was allowed to receive Food from his Friends; he was removed to Aberdeen on the 26th September 1832, and was tried there on the following Day; whilst in Aberdeen Gaol he had a Cell to himself for the first Month, but the Prison becoming very crowded, an untried Prisoner of the Name of ——— was placed in the Cell with him, and remained with him for the last Two Months; they slept together; the Cell was about the Size of a First Class Cell in the Penitentiary; the Cell Doors were opened about Seven o'Clock every Morning (there were Five Cells in the Ward, and each of them contained Two Men), when the Prisoners were let down to an Airing-yard, where they walked about until Breakfast-time at Nine o'Clock; there was no Officer present with the Prisoners, who walked and talked just as they pleased; the general Nature of the Conversation was of the most reprehensible Description, cursing and swearing, obscene Stories, and bragging of former Thefts; there was a Bible in every Cell; the Prison Allowance was daily a Threepenny Brown Loaf, with 1*d.* to buy Milk, but the Prisoners were allowed to purchase Provisions, such as Meat, Vegetables, Bread, and Beer; the Keeper of the Prison sold Porter and Beer, but no Spirits, to the Prisoners; much prefers the Silence observed in the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication permitted at Banff and Aberdeen Gaols; could read a very little when admitted into the Penitentiary, but not write; he now reads pretty well.

——— ——— (*Aylesbury.*)

Is Twenty-two Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 21st May 1833 from Aylesbury Gaol; was tried and convicted at Aylesbury Assizes on the 25th February 1833 of Housebreaking, when Sentence of Death was recorded, which was subsequently commuted to Seven Years Transportation; was upwards of Six Months in Aylesbury Gaol before Trial, which was postponed on account of severe Illness (the Cholera); asserts this to be his First Offence, and never was in Prison before; before Trial he was placed in what is called the School, where there were occasionally from Six to Twelve Prisoners, some before and some after Trial; they associated together in the Yard and Day-room during the Day, but each had a separate Cell to sleep in; this was only for such as were placed in the School; in other Parts of the Prison sometimes Two and sometimes Three Men slept in a Bed; after he was tried he was removed to what is called the Old Gaol, where he had also a Cell to himself at Night, but associated with the other Prisoners, perhaps Seven or Eight, during the Day; had no Employment, but was allowed to knit Purses made of Cotton, which he either gave away or sold; both before and after Trial he was allowed to receive cold Victuals from his Friends; was also permitted to purchase Beer, for which he paid 2*d.* a Pint; no Gambling was permitted, but Prisoners were allowed to amuse themselves playing at Ball; the Prisoners were allowed to talk to each other as much as they pleased; the Conversation was generally of the worst Description, and he was most thankful when he was sent to the Penitentiary, although he is obliged to keep strict Silence; only knew his Letters when received into the Penitentiary, and now reads tolerably well; cannot write.

——— ——— (*Bedford.*)

Is Twenty-nine Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 5th September 1833 from Bedford Gaol, having been tried at Bedford Assizes on the 22d July in that year, convicted of "stealing Cloth, &c. in a Dwelling House from his Employer," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; asserts it to have been a First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was between Three Weeks and a Month in Bedford Gaol before Trial; was placed by Day in a large Room containing about Twelve Persons, all of them untried, but each had a separate sleeping Cell, where they were taken up to at Night; adjoining the Day-room was an Airing-yard, to which the Prisoners had Access when they pleased; there was no Officer present in the Yard; had only the Prison Allowance both before and after Trial, which was only 1½ lb. of Bread daily, except for the First Week he was there, when he was permitted to purchase Tea and Sugar, Bacon, Bread, Cheese, Potatoes, and Milk, from a Person who attended at the Prison; but this Practice was put a Stop to by the

the Magistrates; there was no Restriction as to talking, and the Conversation generally was of a very bad Tendency; after Trial he was placed in another large Room called the Convicts Room; there were only Ten, although the Room was large enough to hold Twenty or Thirty; did some Work (he is an excellent Tailor) for the Governor, and repaired some Prison Clothing; had a separate Cell at Night; and there was no Difference between the tried and untried Prisoners; would prefer the Silence of the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners as at Bedford; could both read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Bury St. Edmonds.*)

Is Fifteen Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 27th January last from the Gaol at Bury St. Edmonds; was tried there on the 13th of the same Month, convicted of "stealing a Pair of Shoes from his Master's Premises," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; admits he had been in Bury Gaol once before; "he was strongly recommended by the Chairman and Magistrates at the Sessions as a fit Object to be sent to the Penitentiary, his Relations and Connexions being so bad, it was considered a Mercy to the Youth to separate him from them;" was Six Weeks this last Time in Bury Gaol before Trial; was principally in No. 7. Ward, which contained about Thirty Prisoners; some of them had a Cell to themselves, but there were also double Cells, where Four Prisoners slept; there were Three Beds close together where the Four Prisoners slept; this Ward was for Prisoners before Trial; never heard any cursing or swearing, or profane Conversation; the Prisoners had an Airing-yard, where they walked and talked as they liked; no Officer was present; the Prison Allowance before and after Trial was the same, that being 1½ lb. of Bread a Day, and nothing else; *before Trial*, if a Prisoner had Money, he was permitted to purchase Bread, Butter, Flour, or Meat, but neither Beer nor Porter; *after Trial*, the Prison Allowance was only 1½ lb. of Bread daily for each Person, except such as were sentenced to hard Labour, who each received 2¼ lbs. of Bread, 1 Pint of Gruel, and 1 Quart of Small Beer every Day but Sunday, when they received each ½ lb. of Beef, ¼ Peck of Potatoes, and 2¼ lbs. of Bread, but no Beer; in one Ward, No. 2., there are Cells for solitary Confinement, where strict Silence is observed, and where the Prisoners, when taking Exercise, walk in single Files with an Interval of Two Yards between each; prefers being in the Penitentiary, because he is better fed, goes to School, and is instructed; could neither read nor write when received here, but now reads a little.

——— ——— (*Banbury.*)

Is Twenty-six Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 17th April 1832 from Banbury Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions for Banbury on the 6th of that Month; he was convicted of "stealing Wool from the Warehouse of his Master," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; states this to be his First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was Three Months in Banbury Gaol before Trial; there is no Distinction in that Gaol (which is a very small one) between untried and tried Prisoners; they associate together indiscriminately; the Prison Allowance is 1½ lb. of White Bread, 2 oz. of Cheese, and 2 Pints of Gruel daily for Six Days for each Person, on Sunday ½ lb. of Meat, with ¼ Peck of Potatoes, in addition; the Prisoners, which were not more than Six or Seven, all lived together and slept in the same Room, there being Three Beds, and Two to a Bed; Prisoners, if well-behaved, were allowed to receive Food, Beer, and Tobacco from their Friends, or to purchase such Articles if they had Money; the Conversation generally was of the worst Description, cursing and swearing, obscene talking, boasting of their Thefts, &c.; gives a decided Preference to the Silence observed in the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners as at Banbury; could neither read nor write when received into the Penitentiary; can now read very well, and write a little.

——— ——— (*Bristol.*)

Is Twenty-nine Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 17th November 1832 from Bristol Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions for Bristol on the 15th October in that Year; he was convicted of "stealing Eight Bushels of Barley and Thirty Sacks, Value 58*s.*, from his Master;" asserts it to be his First Offence, and had never been, until this Occasion, before a Magistrate; was Ten Weeks in Bristol Gaol before Trial; at first he was placed in the Convicts Yard, and remained there between Four and Five Weeks, when he was removed to the "Untried Yard," and remained there 'till tried; whilst in the Convicts Yard there were about Twenty Prisoners, some tried and some untried; the Prison Allowance for untried Prisoners was 1½ lb. of Bread daily for each Person, but nothing else; Provisions, Tobacco, and Snuff were allowed to be brought in by Prisoners

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

Friends, or to be purchased by Prisoners both *before* and *after Trial*; One of the Turnkey's Wives was allowed to sell Potatoes, Cheese, Tea and Sugar, Tobacco and Snuff, but no Spirits or Malt Liquor; did not do any Work before Trial; associated with all the Prisoners both in the Convicts Yard and in the Untried Yard; when walking in the Yard there was an Officer sometimes present and sometimes not; no Restraint on Conversation, which was "*dreadful bad*," cursing, swearing, and all Sorts of bad Language, and singing of bad Songs, particularly at Night; whilst in the Convict Yard slept with ——— (who was tried for the same Offence) in a small Cell with One Bedstead; when in the Untried Yard had a sleeping Cell to himself; after Trial he was placed back in the Convict Yard, and was obliged to work on the Tread-wheel; bad Conversation was carried on there also, but he had a Cell to himself at Night; prefers infinitely the Silence of the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners as at Bristol, the constant Oaths and Imprecations being *most horrid*; could read and write a little when received, and has improved.

——— ——— (*Chester and Knutsford.*)

Is Thirty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 12th July 1834 from Chester Gaol, having been tried at Knutsford Sessions on the 30th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of stealing Potatoes (he states not more than a Bushel), and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; he admits that about Two Years ago he was taken before the Magistrates at Chester for being drunk and disorderly, and was fined 5*s*., but had never been in Prison until charged with stealing the Potatoes; was committed in the first instance to Chester Castle, remained there a Fortnight, and was then sent to Knutsford Gaol, and was there One Month before Trial; whilst in Chester Castle he was placed in what is called the Time-yard (being for tried Prisoners under short Sentences); had no Work; walked about the Yard as he liked, and spoke to any Prisoner who was in the Yard; the general Conversation was not of an improper Nature in that Yard, but has heard in the Transports Yard singing, lewd talking, cursing, and swearing, many Times; before Trial was allowed to receive Provisions or Tobacco from his Friends; Malt Liquor and Spirits were prohibited; at *Knutsford* he was placed in No. 1. Yard (for Prisoners before Trial); the Prison Allowance was the same as at Chester Castle, but no Provisions or Tobacco were allowed to be purchased or to be brought in by Friends; was placed at Night, both at Chester Castle and at Knutsford, in a Room with Three Beds, there being One Prisoner for each Bed; believes there might have been in No. 1. Yard at Knutsford about 100 Prisoners; there was an unrestrained Communication permitted amongst them; the general Conversation was respecting their approaching Trials; has heard some improper Language, but not much; whilst in the Yard there was no Officer present, but one of the old Prisoners, called the Constable of the Yard, was there to maintain Propriety and Decency; was only One Day after Trial in Knutsford; would prefer having Company and Permission to talk as at Chester Castle and Knutsford to the strict Silence he is obliged to observe in the Penitentiary; could both read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Cardiff.*)

Is Thirty-nine Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 26th March 1833 from Cardiff Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes for Cardiff on the 23d of the preceding Month; was convicted of Felony, "stealing Silver Plate from his Employer," and sentenced to Transportation for Fourteen Years; he asserts this to be a First Offence, and was never in Prison before; was Six Months in Cardiff Gaol before Trial; was placed in a Day-room with Three other Prisoners, each of them had a separate sleeping Cell at Night; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, where the Four Prisoners walked when they thought proper, no Officer being present; there were only Four for the First Two Months; afterwards the Numbers increased to Seven; the general Tenor of the Conversation was of a proper Nature; seldom heard either cursing or swearing or profane talking; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance to Prisoners either before or after Trial; 1½ lb. of Bread, 2 Pints of Gruel, and 1 lb. of Potatoes to each Person daily; before Trial Prisoners were permitted to receive from their Friends or to purchase Meat, Bread, Tea, Sugar, Coffee, Tobacco, and Vegetables, but neither Malt Liquor nor Spirits; there was a Woman, called the Messenger, who called every Morning, except Sunday, for Orders, and purchased such Articles as were wanted; believes the Woman was searched at the outer Gate before she was suffered to come into the Prison; thinks the Woman had a small Profit on the Articles she purchased, exclusive of some Pence occasionally given to her by the Prisoners; was between Four and Five Weeks in Cardiff Gaol after Trial; had no Employment, nor was he removed out of the same Yard; took Exercise as usual, and could talk to any of the Prisoners he chose; no Officer was present, nor had any Prisoner any Control over the rest; would prefer the Intercourse and Communication permitted at Cardiff to the strict Silence he is obliged to observe in the Penitentiary; could read and write when received.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

——— ——— (*Brecon.*)

Is Sixty Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 13th of April 1833 from Brecon Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes for Brecon on the 18th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing 15 Sovereigns, a Net Purse, and a Tin Box from a Dwelling House," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts that he is perfectly innocent of this Offence, and that he never was in Prison before; was in Brecon Gaol about Six Months before Trial; was placed in a Day-room with Five or Six others; had a sleeping Cell, where he sometimes had a Companion, and sometimes slept by himself; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance to Prisoners before or after Trial; 1½ lb. of White Bread only was daily given to each Prisoner, but Provisions were permitted to be given by Friends or purchased by the Prisoners; neither Spirits nor Malt Liquor were permitted to be brought into the Prison; was allowed to talk to any Person he thought proper; never heard any improper Conversation made use of by any one; would prefer Brecon Gaol to the Penitentiary, for in the former he would be permitted to speak Welch; is a very ignorant Man; knew nothing when he was received into the Penitentiary, and is too old to learn.

——— ——— (*Cambridge.*)

Is Twenty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 7th January 1833 from Cambridge Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions for Cambridge on the 31st December 1832; he was convicted of "stealing Coke, Value 2*s.*, from his Employer," and sentenced to be transported for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he never was in Prison before; was Ten Weeks in Cambridge Gaol before Trial; was placed in a Day-room with another Prisoner; there being no Fire in the Room, and the Weather very cold, they volunteered to work on the Tread-wheel, and received daily for each Person on the Wheel 2 lbs. of Bread and 1 Pint of Small Beer for Six Working Days; the Beer was withheld on Sunday; whilst working on the Wheel the Prisoners were not allowed to talk, but when in the Airing-yard they were permitted to talk, provided they did not talk loud; with the Exception of Two Prisoners, who were very bad, he never heard any improper Conversation; Prisoners before Trial were allowed to receive Provisions from their Friends at any Time, but nothing was permitted to be purchased; Prisoners after Trial were limited to receiving Provisions from their Friends once a Week (on Saturdays); no Spirits were allowed, but Friends might bring in Ale or Porter, being limited to 1 Quart for each Prisoner; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; would prefer *very much* being at the Penitentiary, where, although he is obliged to be silent, he goes to School and receives Instruction, to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners at Cambridge; could read, but not write, when admitted; can do both now.

——— ——— (*Carlisle.*)

Is Thirty-five Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 11th September 1832 from Carlisle Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions for Carlisle on the 21st July in that Year; he was convicted of "stealing a Silver Watch from his Employer," and sentenced to be transported for Seven Years; asserts this to be his First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was committed to Carlisle Gaol on the 28th May 1832; was placed in a Day-room, where there were Two other Persons also untried; each had a separate sleeping Cell; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, where the Three Prisoners walked at their Pleasure; the Two Persons were very decent and respectable, and never made use of any improper Language; the Allowance for Prisoners before Trial is 1½ lb. of White Bread to each daily, and no other Food, but they were permitted to receive Provisions from their Friends, or to purchase it; the Turnkeys will buy it and bring it in; but neither Spirits or Malt Liquor was permitted; after Trial the Allowance to each Prisoner was 1½ lb. of Bread daily, 1 lb. of undressed Beef every Saturday Night, and 1 lb. of Cheese, and 1 Quart of Beer every Day at Eleven o'Clock, Sunday excepted; no Provisions were permitted to be given by Friends; after Conviction was placed in No. 7. Ward, where there were about Fourteen or Fifteen Prisoners, who all worked on the Tread-wheel but himself, he being excused on account of Hernia; Carlisle is a new Prison, built on the radiating Principle, and Silence is strictly observed on the Tread-wheel, but they take their Meals together in Day-rooms, when talking is permitted, but in a low Tone of Voice; never heard bad Language from any Prisoner but One, he was very unruly and ill-behaved, and was repeatedly punished by Confinement in a dark Cell; liked Carlisle Gaol very well, but prefers being in the Penitentiary, being better fed and having more Instruction; could both read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Carmarthen, and Discovery Hulk.*)

Is Twenty Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 4th June 1832 from Carmarthen Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes held at Carmarthen on the 7th of March

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

in that Year; he was convicted of "Sacrilege, breaking into the Church, and stealing the Communion Plate," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; asserts this to be his First Offence, and that he never was in Prison before; was in Carmarthen Gaol about Six Months before Trial; was placed in the Day-room appointed for untried Prisoners, there being from One to Seven Prisoners during his Time in it; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Room, where the Prisoners might walk in and out as they thought proper; there were sleeping Cells over the Day-room, where Two Prisoners sometimes slept together, or, when a Prisoner particularly requested it, he was permitted to sleep alone; the Conversation, in many Instances, was of a reprehensible Nature, sometimes cursing and swearing, and occasionally obscene Stories; a Turnkey now and then looked at them; 2*s.* a Week was allowed to each Prisoner in lieu of Provisions, which he was allowed to lay out as he thought proper; no Spirits were permitted, but Ale or Beer might be bought; exclusive of the 2*s.* allowed, Prisoners might receive Provisions or Tobacco from their Friends; nothing was sold by any of the Officers or Servants in the Prison, but such Things as were required were bought in the Town by One of the Turnkeys; after his Conviction there was no Difference whatever in his Treatment, he received his 2*s.* weekly, as before, and his Friends also brought him Provisions, Ale, or Porter; no Spirits; no Prisoner had any Control over his Fellow Prisoner; prefers infinitely the Silence and Discipline observed in the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication and Licence permitted at Carmarthen Gaol, as he is positive it is enough to ruin any young Man; was well educated before he came into the Penitentiary. He further stated, that previous to his coming to the Penitentiary he was placed on board the *Discovery Hulk* at Woolwich, but was only there Three Days; he was in the upper Deck, where there were a great many Prisoners, probably not less than 100; they all slept together in the same Division, in Hammocks, as close as they could be stowed; there were old Prisoners appointed as Watchmen, who sat up, had a Light burning and relieved each other every Two Hours; the Watch was not set until Ten o'Clock; from Dark up to that Hour they did as they pleased; there was singing, but not in a loud Voice, cursing, swearing, and obscene Talk; thinks it is impossible for any one to be on board the Hulks even for a few Days without Contamination.

——— ——— (*Coventry.*)

Is Twenty-six Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 29th August 1832 from Coventry Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions for Coventry on the 3d of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Watch from the Person," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts that he is innocent of the Crime for which he was tried, and that he never was in Prison before; was only Eight Days in Coventry Gaol before Trial, and was placed in the untried Yard, with Six other Prisoners; there was a Day-room for all, but each Prisoner had a separate sleeping Cell; the Prison Allowance for untried Prisoners was the same as for the tried, with the Exception of such as worked on the Tread-wheel, who had 1 lb. of Bread in addition daily; the Allowance to the rest was 1½lb. of Bread for each Person daily, but Friends were permitted to bring in Provisions both to untried and tried Prisoners; such as had no Friends were permitted to purchase Meat, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Vegetables, Cheese, Tobacco, and Beer (4*d.* per Quart) not exceeding Two Pints; there was a Shop near the Prison, and a Person attended daily for Orders; he was nearly Two Months after Trial in Coventry Gaol, and remained in the untried Yard; there was no Restriction as to speaking; scarcely ever heard any improper Conversation, as the Prisoners in his Day-room were selected for good Conduct; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; would prefer being in Coventry Gaol to being in the Penitentiary, because the Silence and Discipline is so very strict here; could read a very little, but not write, when received; has improved very much in his reading, and can write a little.

——— ——— (*Canterbury, City.*)

Is Twenty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 2d November 1832 from Canterbury Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions for Canterbury on the 18th of the preceding Month; was convicted of "stealing a Watch in a Dwelling House," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he had never been in Prison before; was about a Month in Gaol before Trial, and was in a Day-room with untried Prisoners; there were Six Persons in the Room; there was a small Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, where the Prisoners could walk when they thought proper; there was no Restraint respecting Conversation; generally speaking it was of a very reprehensible Nature; very little cursing and swearing, but much profane Talk and obscene Stories; there were Two Bibles and Two Prayer Books for the Use of the Room, but they were seldom looked at; each Person had a separate sleeping Cell; no Difference in Diet before or after Trial; 1¼lb. of White Bread, 1 lb. of Potatoes, 1 Pint of Oatmeal Gruel, Night and Morning, to each Prisoner daily, and 3oz. of Beef, boiled and free from Bone, Four Days in the Week; no Provisions allowed to be purchased or brought in by Prisoners

Prisoners Friends; Tobacco was not allowed, but some found its Way into the Prison; never saw either Spirits or Malt Liquor; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; would prefer much being in the Penitentiary, notwithstanding the strict Discipline and Silence, as he has so many Opportunities of receiving Instruction, but candidly admits that the objectionable Conversation he heard at Canterbury did not then offend him, being himself as bad as the others; could read when received, but not write; he now writes tolerably.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

——— ——— (*Derby, and Ganymede Hulk.*)

Is Forty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 6th of February 1834 from the Ganymede Hulk at Woolwich, having been tried at the Sessions held at Derby on the 31st December 1833; was convicted of "stealing a Silk Cloak and other Articles," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; asserts this to be his First Offence, and that he never was in Prison before; was about Three Months in Derby Gaol before Trial; on his Committal he was placed in the Reception Room, where he remained Two Days and Two Nights, until seen by the Surgeon (who did not reside in the Prison); he was then removed to the untried Ward, where there were Ten or Eleven more Prisoners; they all staid in the same Room by Day; there were sleeping Cells, with One large Bed in each, which held Three Persons; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, where the Prisoners walked when they thought proper; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, which was usually of the very worst Description, cursing, swearing, most profane and obscene Talk, sometimes singing bad Songs, sometimes quarrelling and fighting; they gambled and played at "Pitch and Toss;" there was seldom an Officer present; he was appointed as a Wardsman, but dared not report any of the Prisoners for fear of their murdering him; has heard some of them propose seizing the Turnkey, taking his Keys from him, locking him up in a Cell and gagging him, and so make their Escape before Trial; there were Bibles and Prayer Books in the Day-room, but they were seldom looked at; they were scribbled all over; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance to tried or untried Prisoners; 2lbs. of White Bread, 1 Quart of Oatmeal Gruel Night and Morning, and 1lb. of Potatoes to each Prisoner daily; Friends were allowed to bring in Provisions, or Prisoners were permitted to purchase Food, Tobacco or Snuff, Porter or Ale (not exceeding 1 Pint for each Person), but no Spirits; would prefer the Discipline and Silence of the Penitentiary to the unrestrained and contaminating Communication with other Prisoners as at Derby Gaol; could neither read nor write when received. He further states that he was put on board the *Ganymede Hulk* at Woolwich on the 15th January 1834, and was sent to the Penitentiary on the 6th of the following Month; was placed in the lower Deck, which was divided by a Passage railed off with Iron Railing; there might have been Fifty or Sixty other Prisoners; all Sorts of Iniquity was carried on, robbing each other, (he was robbed of Two Razors and 3*s.*, he complained to the Captain, but got no Redress,) quarrelling and fighting, cursing, swearing, and singing of bawdy Songs; the Language was most horrid to listen to; there were no Prisoners as Watchmen, but there was a Light during the Night, which was often blown out, when they plundered each other; there was gambling carried on, Card-playing, Dominos, and Pitch and Toss; he considered the Ganymede to be a Hell upon Earth, and thought himself in Heaven when he was taken away from it.

——— ——— (*Dover.*)

Is Thirty-nine Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 13th April 1833 from Dover Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Dover on the 2d of that Month; he was convicted of "stealing Eleven Pairs of Shoes," and sentenced to be transported for Seven Years; asserts this to be his First Offence, and that he never was in Prison before; was Fourteen Weeks in Dover Gaol before Trial; was placed in a Day-room with Seven or Eight Persons who were untried; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, where they were allowed to walk when they thought proper; there was no Restraint as to Conversation; the Prisoners with him were Smugglers, Gipseys, and Sweeps; the Conversation was horrid, cursing, swearing, profane talking, and obscene Songs; a Keeper used to come at Night to lock up, but very seldom at any other Time; they all slept together in One Room on Shelves one over the other; there were Four Beds, Two Persons and sometimes Three slept in each; exclusive of the Prison Allowance, Prisoners were allowed to receive Provisions, Tobacco, Porter, or Ale (but no Spirits), from their Friends, or to purchase them, if they had Money; Provisions or Malt Liquor were not sold by any Person in the Prison, but they were sent for by an Errand Boy; has seen gambling, Pea and Thimble, Chuck Farthing, and Cards; no Prisoner had Control over another Prisoner; asserts that its impossible for any Person to be in such a Gaol as Dover without Contamination, and considers it as a great Blessing to receive Religious Instruction in the Penitentiary, where Silence is observed; could read and write when received.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

——— ——— (*Dundee.*)

Is Thirty-two Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 10th May 1832 from Dundee Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes for Perth on the 19th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing Wearing Apparel," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; asserts this to be his First Offence, and that he never had been in Prison before; was Three Months in Dundee Gaol before Trial; was placed in what was called the Police-room with a decenter Description of Prisoners (his Father being well acquainted with the Provost); there were from Three to Fourteen Prisoners in this Room (not a large one) whilst he was in it, where they remained Day and Night; there was no Airing-yard, the Prison being small; there was a Testament and some Religious Books in the Room, but were seldom looked at; the Conversation was generally of an improper Tendency; on the West Side of the Gaol, where the Prisoners were of a worse Description, there were great Riots and Tumults; they could be heard singing obscene Songs, shouting, cursing and swearing, and gambling; both before and after Trial Prisoners were permitted to purchase or receive Provisions, Tobacco, and Malt Liquor, but no Spirits; is not aware that there was any Limitation to the Quantity of Porter or Ale, which was sold by the *Gaoler* to the Prisoners; the Provisions were purchased outside the Prison, and brought into it by the Son of one of the Turnkeys; no Prisoner had any Control over another Prisoner; would prefer any Situation, however secluded and solitary, to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners; could both read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Dumfermline.*)

Is Twenty Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 23d November 1833, having been tried at the Assizes for Perth on the 18th September in that Year; was convicted of "an Assault with Intent to ravish," and sentenced to be transported for Seven Years; asserts this to be his First Offence, and that he never was imprisoned before; was in Dumfermline Gaol between Three and Four Months before Trial; it is a small Gaol, and the tried, the untried, and Debtors were all together in One large Day-room; there was not any Airing-yard; there were Three sleeping Cells only, with Two Beds in each; sometimes a Man had a Bed to himself, sometimes Two slept together, and occasionally Three; very seldom saw an Officer, except at locking-up Time at Night, unlocking in the Morning, and at Dinner-time; the Allowance to untried Prisoners was more than to the tried, being Two Twopenny Loaves (about 1 lb. each) to the former, and only One to the latter, and nothing else; Friends were allowed to bring in Provisions, or Prisoners were permitted to purchase Meat, Vegetables, Tea, and Sugar, but neither Spirits nor Malt Liquor; a Schoolmaster attended every Night from 6 to 7 o'Clock, and taught the Prisoners reading and writing; a Bible was allowed to such as could read; they were seldom looked at except when the Schoolmaster was present; the general Tendency of the Conversation was bad in the extreme; cursing and swearing, profane talking, and obscene Songs and Stories; Pitch and Toss, and Card-playing was carried on; no Prisoner had Control over another; prefers *much* the Silence of the Penitentiary to the unrestrained and horrid Language made use of at Dumfermline; could read and write a little when received, and is improved in both.

——— ——— (*Dorchester.*)

Is Thirty-four Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 14th May 1833 from Dorchester Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes held at Dorchester on the 9th March in the same Year; was convicted of "stealing in a Dwelling House the Sum of 16*s.* and some Wearing Apparel," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts that he never was in Prison before, but admits that he had been twice before the Magistrates at Lewes on Assault Warrants; was in Dorchester Gaol about Six Weeks before Trial; was placed in the untried Ward, where there were between Thirty and Forty Prisoners for various Offences; they were all kept in One large Day-room, to which there was an Airing-yard attached, and to which they had access at all Hours in the Day; there was no Officer present, but there was a Prisoner (a Smuggler named ————) appointed as Wardsman, who was to keep Order and Regularity, and to report all Offences to the Governor, and he kept the Yard *pretty regular;* there was no Restraint as to Conversation or Communication with other Prisoners; has heard very reprehensible Language made use of, sometimes cursing and swearing, loose Stories, but no singing; no gambling, nor quarrelling, nor fighting was allowed by the Wardsman, who was as much obeyed by the Prisoners in Dorchester Gaol as a Warder is in the Penitentiary; there were Night Cells, which held Three and some Four Beds, each Prisoner having a Bed to himself; states that in his Night Cell there were Three besides himself; they were all very decent well-behaved Men, and never made use of bad Language; there were Bibles and Religious Books in the Day-room, some were read by a few of the Prisoners; the Prison Allowance for untried Prisoners was 1½ lb. of Brown Bread and 1 Quart of Gruel made with Oatmeal; before Trial Prisoners were

were allowed to receive cold Meat, Vegetables, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, and Milk, and Table Beer, not exceeding 1 Pint to each Person; Tobacco was also allowed, but no Spirits; no Person in the Prison was allowed to sell any thing; the Prison Allowance after Trial was 1½ lb. of Brown Bread, 2 Quarts of Oatmeal Gruel, and 1 lb. of Potatoes boiled; no Provisions nor Table Beer was permitted, but Tobacco might be purchased; after he was tried he was removed to the Mill-yard; had only then the Prison Allowance; was in it upwards of Six Weeks, and worked on the Tread-wheel with other Prisoners; there was no Restraint as to Conversation in the Yard, but Silence was ordered to be observed on the Wheel, although talking often took place; the general Nature of the Conversation was of a worse Tendency than in the untried Yard; there was likewise a Wardsman in that Ward, but he was rather a *wildish Fellow*, and used to take part in the reprehensible Conversation himself; he was not respected by any of the Prisoners; gives a Preference to the Penitentiary, for, although there is Silence enforced, Prisoners are well instructed and well taken care of; could read and write a little when received.

——— ——— (*Durham.*)

Is Fifty-seven Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 24th August 1833 from Durham Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Durham on the 1st of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "Larceny, stealing Shoes," and was sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he never was in Prison before; was upwards of Two Months in Durham Gaol before Trial; was placed in a large Day-room with Ten other untried Prisoners; there was a small Airing-yard attached to it, where the Prisoners were allowed to walk for Two Hours and a Half every Day, a Turnkey being always present; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, and the Prisoners might walk with or talk to whom they liked; never heard any improper Conversation, neither cursing nor swearing; no gambling whatsoever; there were Bibles and other Religious Books allowed, and most of the Prisoners made use of them; the Chaplain read Prayers every Day; no Prisoner had any Control over his Fellow Prisoners; the Prison Allowance was the same before and after Trial, viz., 1 lb. of Brown Bread, 6 oz. of Oatmeal, and 1 lb. of Potatoes undressed, with Three Gills of new Milk, to each Person daily; on Fridays there was an Addition of 6 oz. of Salt Fish, and on Sundays 4 oz. of Cheese; both before and after Trial Prisoners were allowed to receive from their Friends or to purchase Tea and Sugar and Tobacco, but nothing else; no Spirits or Malt Liquor was permitted; after Trial he was placed with Eight Convicts in C. Hall, but walked in the same Airing-yard as before; heard no improper Conversation in C. Hall; was in it Two Months; there were Night Cells both for tried and untried Prisoners; there were Three Beds in each Night Cell, Two Persons slept in a Bed; declares positively that he never heard any bad Language either by Day or by Night whilst he was in Durham Gaol; would prefer being in Durham Gaol to being in the Penitentiary, but only on account of being near his Friends, whom he was allowed to see for Half an Hour every Day; could read, but not write, when received.

——— ——— (*Edinburgh.*)

Is Sixty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 3d February 1834 from Edinburgh Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Edinburgh on the 26th December 1833; he was convicted of "Forgery and uttering forged Writings," and sentenced to Transportation for Life, which was subsequently mitigated to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts it to be a First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was about a Month in Edinburgh Gaol before Trial; was placed in No. 6. Ward; there were about Twelve Prisoners in it, some tried and some untried; they all staid in One large Room by Day, but there were Night Cells, with a Bed in each, where Two Prisoners slept together; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, to which the Prisoners had access whenever they thought proper; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, and they might walk with or talk to any one they chose; there were Three Bibles and some other Religious Books in the Day-room, and they were occasionally read by the Prisoners; a Schoolmaster attended every Saturday, but it was only to exchange Books, did not teach any thing; the Chaplain attended every Friday, read Prayers and gave a short Lecture; there were some in for Thefts, some for Poaching, some for Assaults, and other Offences; when they walked in the Yard there was seldom an Officer present, but there was a tried Prisoner appointed to keep Order, and to report to the Turnkey any Instance of Misconduct that might occur; he was called "the Day-man of the Day-room;" he reported several Prisoners whilst he was there, and many of them were punished; never heard any cursing or swearing, or profane talking; singing was permitted, provided the Songs were not of an immoral Tendency; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance either before or after Trial; each Prisoner received 1 Pint of Gruel every Night and Morning, 1 Quart of Barley Broth for Dinner, and 1 Penny Roll daily for Six Days; on

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

Saturdays ¼ lb. of Cheese was substituted for the Barley Broth, with the Addition of 1 Pint of Table Beer for Dinner on that Day only; Prisoners, both before and after Trial, were allowed to purchase Provisions, or receive them from Friends, such as cold Meat, Vegetables, Tea, Sugar, Coffee, Milk, Tobacco, and Snuff; Half a Pint of strong Beer was allowed, but no Spirits; would prefer being at Edinburgh Gaol to the Penitentiary, because he had more Liberty there, and was permitted to see his Friends for Half an Hour every Week; has been well educated.

——— ——— (*Exeter.*)

Is Forty-five Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 27th May 1834 from Exeter Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes held at Exeter on the 24th July 1833; he was convicted of "forging and using a counterfeit Stamp, to stamp Silver manufactured for Sale," and sentenced to be transported for Fourteen Years, which was subsequently commuted to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to be his First Offence, and that he never had been in Prison before; was committed to the Devon County Gaol at Exeter on the 9th April 1833; was in it upwards of Three Months before Trial; was placed in No. 1. Day-room with Fourteen or Fifteen Prisoners, all of whom were untried; their Offences were various, some for Housebreaking, some for Street Robbery, some for Horse-stealing, and Two for Assaults; there was an Airing-yard attached to this Day-room, where the Prisoners might walk when they thought proper; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, and Prisoners might talk to or walk with any one they chose; an Officer was seldom present, but no Prisoner was appointed to keep Order among the rest; there were Bibles and other Religious Books in each Day-room, supplied by the Chaplain; some of the Prisoners read a good deal, some not so much, and a few not at all; some of the Men were decent and orderly in their Conduct, whilst others were bragging of former Acts, and seeming to set every thing at defiance, making use of cursing and swearing, profane Talk, and obscene Observations; saw Cards made out of Pieces of Paper, and played with; saw Squares marked in the Table, and Chequers played; saw also the Pea and Thimble, and Prick in the Garter, by which the old Thieves used to defraud the young Hands; each Prisoner had a separate sleeping Cell at Night, precisely like the Cells in the Penitentiary; this Arrangement refers to No. 1.; Provisions were sometimes allowed to be given to Prisoners by their Friends before Trial, but not after; a little Bacon, Bread, Vegetables, Tea and Sugar, and a little Flour, but neither Spirits, Malt Liquor, nor Tobacco; there was no Difference made with him before or after Trial; would prefer very much being in Exeter Gaol, where he could see or hear from his Friends constantly. Was asked if his Son was unfortunate enough to be put in Prison whether in that Case he would prefer for him the unrestrained Conversation and Communication with other Prisoners as at Exeter to the strict Discipline and Silence observed in the Penitentiary; he replied that he could not answer that Question, feeling as he did the great Hardship of not being allowed to see or communicate with his Wife and Family oftener than once in Six Months. Has been well educated.

——— ——— (*Ely.*)

Is Forty-four Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 16th July 1832 from Ely Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Ely on the 4th of that Month; he was convicted of "embezzling Money from his Employer," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and was never in Prison before; was in Ely Gaol between Nine and Ten Weeks before Trial; it is a very small Prison, and there was no Separation between tried and untried Prisoners and Debtors; there was a Day-room, with a small Airing-yard attached to it, which the Prisoners could go in or out of as they liked; there were sleeping Rooms, with a Couple of Beds in each, Two Prisoners slept in a Bed; there was no Bible or Religious Book in the Day-room; no Restraint as to Conversation or Communication with other Prisoners; there were Five Prisoners along with him in the Day-room, One Debtor, Two Housebreakers, and Two for stealing Linen; the Two last were very ill-behaved, cursing and swearing continually, boasting of the Robberies they had committed, making use of the most horrid Language, and singing of obscene Songs, sometimes for an Hour together; the Officer seldom came into the Yard, but used frequently to look in at the Yard through a Window; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance either before or after Trial, and the untried and tried were alike permitted to purchase or receive from their Friends cold Meat, Bread, Cheese, Vegetables, Tea, Sugar, Coffee, and Tobacco, and 1 Pint of Ale in the Day to each Prisoner, but no Spirits were permitted; saw once "Prick in the Garter," but no other Play; no Prisoner had any Control over his Fellow Prisoners; prefers very much the strict Discipline and Silence of the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners as at Ely; a young or partly innocent Person could not fail of being contaminated and *ruined for Life;* has Nine Children, and would rather see his *Son dead* than be committed to such a Prison; could both read and write when received.

357

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

——— ——— (*Flint.*)

Is Nineteen Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 29th November 1833 from Flint Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Mould on the 4th July in that Year; he was convicted of "stealing a Silver Watch and Two Silk Handkerchiefs," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; was in Prison once before for a Burglary, and was confined Twelve Months in Derby Gaol; was about Four or Five Months in Flint Gaol before Trial; Flint is a small Prison, of Two Wards of Twelve each; was placed in the Felons Ward, where there were from Three to Twelve Prisoners, some tried and some untried; their Offences were different, some for Housebreaking, some for Theft, and Two for Assaults; there was One large Day-room, with an Airing-yard attached, to which the Prisoners had access as they thought proper; there was no Restraint as to Conversation or Communication with each other; there was only One Officer belonging to the Gaol, and he visited generally once a Day; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; heard very little good Conversation, but plenty of bad; cursing and swearing, profane and obscene Talk, boasting of former Exploits, and singing of improper Songs; One Bible and some Tracts and Religious Publications were in the Day-room; they were seldom looked at; no Difference in the Prison Allowance either before or after Trial; 3*s.* per Week was allowed for each Prisoner; the Governor found the Provision, which was usually Bread, Oatmeal, Potatoes, Treacle, and Butter Milk, but no Spirits, Malt Liquor, or Tobacco were permitted; Friends were not allowed to bring in Provisions; there were Night Cells, with One Bed in each, sometimes Two Persons slept together, and sometimes Three; saw gambling there for Half-pence or for Provisions; they played at Dominos, Prick in the Garter, and at a Game something like Nine Pins (Pieces of Wood stuck up, and which they bowled at with a Potato); would a great deal rather be in the Penitentiary, although the Discipline is so strict, and where they are not permitted to talk, because he is well fed and well instructed; whereas the unrestrained and vile Conversation he heard at Flint Gaol was enough to *ruin any one;* could read tolerably, and write his Name indifferently; is improved in both.

——— ———(*Ayr Gaol, Glasgow Gaol, and Glasgow Bridewell.*)

Is Twenty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 23d November 1833 from Glasgow Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes held at Glasgow on the 20th of the preceding September; he was convicted of "Theft, pledging Plate the Property of his Master," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to be his First Offence, and was never in Prison before; he pleaded *guilty.* On his Apprehension he was committed in the first instance to Ayr Gaol, where he was a Fortnight, and was removed from thence to Glasgow Gaol, where he was also about a Fortnight before Trial. Whilst in Ayr Gaol he was placed in a Cell in strict solitary Confinement for Three or Four Days, when, having been examined by the Sheriff Substitute of Ayrshire, he was placed in a Day-room with Five or Six other Prisoners, Two of them having been convicted; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, where the Prisoners took exercise Three Times a Day for an Hour each Time, an Officer being always present; there was One Bible in the Day-room, but it was never looked at; the general Conversation was of the very worst Decription, cursing and swearing, most profane and obscene Talk, and sometimes singing indecent Songs; there was no gaming of any Sort; there were Night Cells, One Bed in each, but Two and sometimes Three Prisoners slept together; there was 4½*d.* paid every Morning to each Prisoner, which was laid out in Provisions; the Gaoler sold the Bread himself; Provisions might be brought in by Friends, or be purchased by those who had Money; there was no Restriction as to Provisions, Tobacco or Snuff, but Spirits and Malt Liquors were not allowed; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest, yet he and others were obliged to pay Garnish to the oldest Prisoner (a Man named ———), who claimed and enforced it as Matter of Right. On his Removal to Glasgow Gaol he was placed in a *Flat* containing Six Cells, with Two Hammocks in each; the Prisoners in this Flat were all untried; there was not any Airing-yard, but the Prisoners took exercise by walking in the Passage; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, which, if possible, was even worse than at Ayr; saw Pitch and Toss, and Cards made by themselves; the Prison Allowance was a Quart of Oatmeal Porridge, and a Halfpenny-worth of Milk for Breakfast; One Quart of Soup made of Ox Heads, thickened with Barley, and Three-halfpence-worth of Bread; might purchase additional Provisions, or buy Porter and Ale from one of the Turnkeys, who was allowed to sell to the Prisoners without Limitation of Quantity; no Difference between tried and untried Prisoners; no Prisoner had Control over the rest, yet he was obliged to pay Garnish at Glasgow as well as at Ayr to the oldest Prisoner; would decidedly prefer the strict Discipline and Silence of the Penitentiary, where he is well instructed, to the unrestrained Communication and contaminating Conversation he witnessed both at Ayr and at Glasgow. He also states that after Trial he was placed in the *Glasgow Bridewell*; there the Prisoners were kept in solitary Confinement, and the Discipline is even more strict than in the Penitentiary, but nevertheless he prefers it to either of the Two former Prisons; at Glasgow Bridewell Friends were permitted to bring in once a Week Provisions to tried Prisoners, but no Spirits nor Malt Liquor. Could both read and write when received.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

——— ——— (*Gloucester.*)

Is Twenty-eight Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 15th March 1834 from Gloucester Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Gloucester on the 5th of that Month; was convicted of "feloniously stealing, at the Parish of ———, Nine Pigs, the Property of ——— ———," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to be his First Offence, and was never in Prison before; was committed to Gloucester Gaol on the 16th January 1834; was placed in a Ward where there were only untried Prisoners, which held Thirty-two Persons, but it was not always full; those confined with him were for various Offences, some for picking Pockets, some for stealing Fowls, some for Highway Robbery, some for stealing in Dwelling Houses, and some for uttering counterfeit Coin; the Prisoners were placed by Day in a large Room which had a Fire; there was an Airing-yard attached to it, to which the Prisoners had access when they liked; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, they might walk with or talk to any one they pleased; seldom saw the Turnkey, except at Meals and at locking-up Time; when the Gaol was not crowded there was a separate sleeping Cell for each Prisoner, but on one Occasion whilst he was there there were as many as Six Persons slept in One Room; the Prison Allowance *before Trial* was 1½ lb. of Household Bread and 1*d.* to each Prisoner; Provisions were allowed to be purchased or brought in by Friends, such as Meat, Vegetables, Butter, Milk, Cheese, Tea, Sugar, and Coffee; Tobacco was permitted, but neither Spirits nor Malt Liquor; there was One Prayer Book in the Day-room, was sometimes looked at, not often; went to Chapel to Prayers every Morning; the general Tenour of the Conversation was *not very good*, very often cursing and swearing, some relating their Adventures and former Offences, some talking profanely and often indecently, singing, but in a low Voice, for fear of Detection; never saw any Cards, but saw Pitch and Toss, Prick in the Garter, and Pea and Thimble; quarrelling and fighting took place almost every Day; after Trial he was placed in another Ward where there was a Tread-wheel; every Prisoner in that Ward had a separate Cell, and no talking was allowed when on the Tread-wheel; there was a Division between every Prisoner, and when they walked in the Airing-yard they walked in single Files, with an Interval between each as at the Penitentiary; the Officers kept a sharp Look-out, and strictly enforced Silence; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; after Trial nothing but the Prison Diet was permitted; it consisted of 1½ Pint of Oatmeal Gruel for Breakfast, 1½ lb. of Household Bread, 1½ lb. of Potatoes twice a Week, and on Thursday 6 ozs. of Meat, boiled and free from Bone; Two Days Pea Soup, and the other Two Days 1 Quart of Rice and Oatmeal Gruel, to each Person; preferred being on the untried Side, although they were but a *riff-raff Set*, to being on the tried Side, as the Tread-wheel was so very severe; has been well educated.

——— ——— (*Great Stukeley.*)

Is Eighteen Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 30th January 1834 from Great Stukeley Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Huntingdon on the 31st December 1833; he was convicted of "Sheep-stealing," and sentenced to Transportation for Life; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was Six Weeks in Stukeley Gaol before Trial; was placed with Seven or Eight untried Prisoners in one Day-room, to which there was a small Airing-yard attached, and to which the Prisoners had access when they liked; there was no Restraint as to Conversation; did not *use* much cursing and swearing; there was sometimes some singing, but not indecent; heard some tell of their Adventures; there was One Person for stealing Spades, who had been there once or twice before; there was One more (besides himself) for Sheep-stealing, One for Housebreaking, One for stealing in a Dwelling House, and One for stealing Silver Spoons; never saw gaming of any Sort; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; Prisoners *before Trial* were allowed to purchase Provisions or to receive them from Friends, in addition to the Prison Allowance; One Pint of Ale or strong Beer might be purchased daily by each Prisoner, but no Spirits; there was a separate sleeping Cell for each Person; after Trial he was put to work on the Tread-wheel; Prisoners were not allowed to talk, a Turnkey being mostly with them; after Trial nothing was permitted but the Prison Allowance, no Malt Liquor of any Kind; prefers being in the Penitentiary, because he is better fed, has a clean Bed, and is well instructed; could neither read nor write when received; now reads tolerably.

——— ——— (*Guildford.*)

Is Twenty-four Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 1st November 1832 from Guildford Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Guildford on the 15th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Pair of Boots and a Pair of Shoes, the Property of ——— ———;" asserts this to have been his First Offence, and never was in Prison before; was Ten Days in Guildford Gaol before Trial; was placed in the Infirmary with about a Dozen others who had been tried; they were placed in the Infirmary not on account of bad Health, but because the Prison was crowded; there was a Yard adjoining

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

joining the Infirmary, to which (being untried) he had access when he pleased; no Provisions were allowed either to be purchased or to be received from Friends; no Difference made between tried and untried Prisoners as to Diet, which consisted of 1 Pint of Oatmeal Gruel for Breakfast, 1½ lb. of Household Bread daily, ¼ lb. Meat boiled and free from Bone Three Times a Week, with 1 lb. of Potatoes, and 1 Pint of Barley Soup for Supper on Meat Days; Four Days 1 Pint of Barley Broth for Dinner, and 1 lb. of Potatoes for Supper on those Days; there was no Bible or Prayer Book in the Infirmary, but Prayers were read in the Chapel Three Times a Week by the Chaplain, besides Sundays; on other Days Prayers were read in Chapel by the Governor; no Spirits or Malt Liquors were permitted; after Trial was placed in No. 3. Ward, where there were about Sixteen Prisoners; there were Two double Beds, which held Four Prisoners each; the other Eight Persons had a Cell each; they all worked on the Tread-wheel except himself, who was excused; the Conversation he heard there was such as he never wishes to hear again; those who went in ignorant were soon initiated into Vice and Wickedness, cursing and swearing and obscene Conversation, boasting of former Thefts and singing at Night immoral Songs; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; would rather be in total Solitude, and never to see a Human Being, than be obliged to see and listen to such Actions and Conversations as are carried on at Guildford; could both read and write before he was received.

——— ——— (*Hertford.*)

Is Thirty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 13th December 1833 from Hertford Gaol, having been tried at the Assizes held at Hertford on the 28th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Fowling Piece," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; admits that he had been committed to Chelmsford Gaol about Two Years before, charged with stealing Horse Corn from his Master, but no Bill having been found against him he was discharged at the End of Three or Four Days; asserts himself to be innocent of the Offence for which he was found guilty; was about Six Weeks in Hertford Gaol before Trial; was placed in No. 3. Yard, where there were from Fifteen to Twenty-four Prisoners, some tried and some untried; they were in for various Offences, a good many for Poaching, some for Turnip-stealing, one for passing base Coin, some for robbing Hen-roosts, three for Highway Robbery, and some for stealing in a Dwelling House; there was one large Room where they all staid by Day, to which there was an Airing-yard attached, and where they went in and out as they pleased; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, they talked to and walked with any one they thought proper; some of the Prisoners were decent in their Conduct and Conversation, but some of them were very bad indeed, cursing and swearing, singing obscene Songs, and boasting of their mis-spent Lives; gambling was not allowed, but he saw playing with Dominos, no Cards; there were Religious Books in the Room, some read them, but more did not; there were Night Cells, some of them had but One Bed, some Two or Three; at one Time he slept with Three Men, and for the last Five Days he had a Cell to himself; the Prison Allowance *before Trial* was 1½ lb. of White Bread only to each Prisoner, but he might receive Provisions from Friends, or purchase them if he had Money, such as Meat, Butter, Cheese, Bread, Potatoes, (the Potatoes were sold to the Prisoners by one of the Turnkeys,) Beer, not exceeding Two Pints a Week for each Person; Tobacco was allowed, and was sold to the Prisoners by a Turnkey; no Spirits were permitted; Prisoners *after Trial* received each Half a Crown weekly, which they laid out in such Eatables as they thought proper; the Two Pints of Beer were also allowed, and they purchased Potatoes and Tobacco of the Turnkey; generally attended Chapel twice a Day on Week Days, but always twice on Sundays; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; would sooner be in the Penitentiary, for, although he is obliged to keep Silence, he is kept clean, is well fed, and well instructed; the unrestrained Communication and the bad Language he heard amongst many of the Prisoners he associated with in Hertford Gaol was enough to corrupt any one; there was one Prisoner who had been Six or Seven Times in Hertford Gaol before, and he was with the untried Prisoners: could read and write a little when received, and is improved in both.

——— ——— (*Hereford.*)

Is Twenty-four Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 6th November 1832 from Hereford Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Hereford on the 18th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Watch," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; had led a vagabond Life, and was imprisoned in Monmouth and Cambridge before; was about Three Months in Hereford Gaol before Trial, and was placed in a large Day-room with Nine or Ten Prisoners, some tried and some untried; there were Three Deserters, One Man for stealing Shoes, Two for stealing Wearing Apparel, and One for picking Pockets; there was an Airing-yard attached to the Day-room, to which the Prisoners had access when they liked; there was no Bible or any Religious Book in the Day-room; there was no Restraint as to Conversation; Prisoners might walk with or talk to whom they pleased; the Conversation was most abominable, cursing and swearing, profane

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

talking, and singing of obscene Songs; gaming was carried on, such as Pitch and Toss and Chequers; Ball-playing was permitted; there were Four Night Cells belonging to this Day-room, with Two Beds in each; Two Persons slept in each Bed, and Three in One Bed; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance to the tried or untried; it was 2 lbs. of White Bread daily to each Person, and nothing else but Water; Provisions were however allowed to be purchased or brought in by Friends before Trial, and although not allowed after Trial, they were frequently received by the Convicts; no Spirits were allowed, but sometimes Malt Liquors were purchased; Male Prisoners sometimes saw and conversed with the Female Prisoners; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; is quite convinced that the horrid Language and contaminating Intercourse which prevails in most Gaols have been the Cause of the Ruin of many young Men; and strict as the Discipline is in the Penitentiary, and the Silence observed, he considers it a Blessing that he has been placed in it, and only regrets he was not committed to such a Prison when first he was apprehended; could read and write a little when received, but has improved very much indeed.

——— ——— (*Horsemonger Lane.*)

Is Twenty-five Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 20th December 1834 from Horsemonger Lane Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Newington on the 8th of that Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Coat and other Articles," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he never had been in Prison before; was in Horsemonger Lane Gaol about Three Weeks before Trial; was placed in a Ward with about Thirty Prisoners, all of them untried, except One, who was serving his Time in the Prison, and was Wardsman; was supposed to maintain Order and to report Irregularities (if any) to the Governor; there was no Turnkey in the Ward; the Prisoners were by Day all together in one One large Room, to which there was an Airing-yard attached, and in which the Prisoners walked when they liked; there was no Restraint as to Conversation; there were all Sorts of bad Characters, many of them had been in Prison before; there was cursing and swearing, profane Language, obscene Stories, and many boasting of former Offences; there were Bibles, Prayer Books, and Religious Tracts in the Day-room; they were seldom made use of, sometimes were turned into Ridicule; the Prisoners attended Chapel every Morning; every Prisoner had a separate sleeping Cell; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance between the tried and the untried; before Trial (but not after) Prisoners were permitted to purchase or receive Provisions from Friends, but neither Tobacco, Spirits, nor Malt Liquors; has, however, seen Tobacco there; saw playing at tossing up "Heads or Tails," Prick in the Garter, and Chuck Farthing; prefers much the strict Discipline and Silence of the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners as at Horsemonger Lane; in one Circumstance prefers Horsemonger Lane, because he was permitted to see his Friends every Day but Sunday before Trial, and once a Week after Trial, whilst in the Penitentiary he is only allowed to see them once in Six Months, and being a married Man he feels this to be a most severe Privation.

——— ——— (*Lewes and Horsham.*)

Is Twenty-eight Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 25th November 1832 from Horsham Gaol, having been tried at the Sessions held at Lewes on the 18th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Watch from his Employer," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; admits that when about Seventeen Years of Age he was committed to Maidstone Gaol on a Charge of Manslaughter; was tried, acquitted, and discharged, after being in that Prison Fourteen Days; asserts this to be the only Offence (the present excepted) that he ever was charged with; was committed to the Gaol at Battle for about Three Weeks before Trial, he being the only Prisoner in it was removed to the Gaol at Lewes, where he remained Thirteen more Weeks before he was tried; at Lewes he was placed in a large Day-room, where at first there were but Seven Prisoners, but they subsequently increased to Twenty-seven, all of them untried; there were some however who had been transported before; the Prisoners in that Day-room were allowed to walk in the Airing-yard for One Hour every Day if the Weather permitted, during which Time they were under Inspection; there was no Restriction as to Conversation or to walking with whom they liked; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; there were Bibles, Prayer Books, and several Tracts in the Day-room; they were frequently read; some were very decent and orderly in their Conduct and Conversation, and some were altogether as bad, cursing and swearing, obscene Stories, and talking over former Exploits; there were Night Cells, with Three Beds one over another in each; only One Person slept in a Bed; *before Trial*, in addition to the Prison Allowance, Prisoners might purchase or receive Provisions from Friends, and Small Beer, not exceeding Three Pints to each Person in the course of the Day, but no Tobacco, Spirits, or strong Malt Liquors were permitted; *after Trial* they could only receive the Prison Allowance; never saw any gaming at Lewes all the while he was there; immediately after Trial he was removed to Horsham,

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

Horsham, where he staid Fifteen Days before he was sent to the Penitentiary; in Horsham Gaol he was placed in a Day-room with Six other *tried* Prisoners; each had a separate sleeping Cell; there was an Airing-yard where they took exercise for One Hour daily as at Lewes, an Officer being always present; they might walk with or talk to whom they pleased, provided they were decent and orderly in their Conduct; the general Tenor of the Conversation was much better than at Lewes; never heard any profane Conversation, or cursing or swearing, during the Fifteen Days he was there; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest at Horsham; says he prefers the Penitentiary on account of the Instruction he receives; (it is to be observed that this Prisoner, being a Baker by Trade, was placed in the Bakehouse, with Four other Prisoners also Bakers, and where Silence cannot be strictly enforced, although there is the Master Baker, an Officer, whose sole Duty is to attend to the Bakehouse); could read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Hull.*)

Is Fifty-six Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 23d January 1833 from the Gaol of Kingston-on-Hull, having been tried at the Sessions held at Hull on the 3d of that Month; he was convicted of "stealing a Quantity of Books from Mr. ——— Warehouse, at ———," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he never had been in Prison before; was Two Months in Hull Gaol before Trial in a large Day-room, with Eleven other Prisoners, mostly Boys, and all of them untried; there was an Airing-yard belonging to it, where the Prisoners took exercise twice a Day, an Hour at a Time; in general there was a Turnkey present; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; there were Night Cells, where, when the Prison was not crowded, each Person had a Cell to himself; there was a Bible and a Prayer Book and Two or Three Religious Books in the Day Cell; he heard the Boys their Catechisms every Day, and instructed them, by Order of the Chaplain; there was no Restraint as to Conversation; never heard a reprehensible Expression made use of; there was no Difference in the Prison Allowance between tried and untried Prisoners; and no Provisions, Tobacco, Spirits, or Malt Liquors were permitted to be purchased or to be brought in by Prisoners Friends either before or after Trial; on One Occasion (after Trial) his Wife, not knowing the Rules, brought in some cold Meat, which he was permitted to receive, but only that Time; would much sooner be in the Penitentiary, although the Discipline is so strict, and where he is not allowed to speak, because he is kept clean and receives Instruction; could read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Cumberland Hulk and Horsemonger Lane Gaol.*)

Is Twenty-three Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 4th January 1833 from the Cumberland Hulk, having been tried at the Sessions held at Kingston-upon-Thames on the 19th December 1832; he was convicted of "stealing Three Sacks of Wheat from his Master," and sentenced to Transportation for Fourteen Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he had never been in Prison before; was committed to *Horsemonger Lane Gaol* some Time in August 1832, and remained there upwards of Three Months before Trial, when he was removed to Kingston Gaol for Trial, and remained but a few Days, when he was tried and sent back to Horsemonger Lane, where he continued for Three Weeks more, when he was put on board the Cumberland Hulk at Chatham; was there also Three Weeks, when he was sent to the Penitentiary. When first committed to Horsemonger Lane Gaol he was placed in a large Day-room, where there were none but untried Prisoners (his Account of Horsemonger Lane before Trial does not differ very materially from ——— ——— Statement, Page 34.) *After Trial*, and on his Return to Horsemonger, he was placed in what is called the Strong Room, with Two Men, one of them being sentenced to Death, and the other to Fourteen Years Transportation like himself; there were Three Beds in the Cell (a Bed for each); they did not take exercise; the Allowance to each Man was 1 Pint of Oatmeal Gruel for Breakfast, 6oz. of Meat boiled and free from Bone, 1 Pint of Soup for Supper, with 1½lb. of good Bread daily; there were several Religious Books in the Cell, and the Three Prisoners were often employed in reading; they were much depressed in consequence of their respective Sentences, and did not hear an improper Word spoken; after Trial nothing was permitted but the Gaol Allowance. On his going on board the Cumberland Hulk he was placed at first in the lower Deck, where there were Twenty-four Prisoners; they took their Breakfast at Half past Six o'Clock, and went to work in the Dock Yard at Half past Seven; they worked in Gangs (from Twenty to Thirty in a Gang), an Officer called a Guard, and a Prisoner called a Gangsman, being with each Gang; they returned to the Hulk at Twelve o'Clock for Dinner, and remained on board One Hour, when they again went to work in the Dock Yard, and continued working till Half past Four o'Clock in the Afternoon (it was the Month of January); they were then locked up for the Night; they were permitted to have Lights (which they paid for) until Nine o'Clock, when they were put out, and the Prisoners obliged to go to their Hammocks; there were Two Lights also burning by Night in the Passage; there

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

was a Gangsman in each Division of Prisoners, who was appointed to enforce Decency and Regularity, and who was to report to the Captain if any thing was done amiss; the Gangsman who was called ——— ——— was a steady elderly Man, remarkably well-conducted, and did all in his Power to preserve Regularity, but it was not possible for One Man to do so, as there were many bad Prisoners; in the opposite Division, only separated by a railed Passage, cursing, swearing, quarrelling, and fighting was constantly taking place; never saw any gaming or heard singing; has thanked God often for his having been removed from the Hulks, and considers it a Blessing to have been placed in the Penitentiary, where he receives the best Moral and Religious Instruction, and where Silence is observed; is fully satisfied that the unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners, and the profane and immoral Conversation in the Three Gaols he has been in, (for he was Two Days and One Night in Newgate, when coming to the Penitentiary, where the Conduct and Language was even worse than at the Hulks,) was sufficient to destroy any good Feeling that might have been left in any young Person; could read and write very well before he was received into the Penitentiary.

——— ——— (*Newgate, and Euryalus Hulk.*)

Is Fifteen Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 9th February 1835 from the Euryalus Hulk, having been tried at the Old Bailey on the 5th of the preceding Month; he was convicted of "stealing Two Pairs of Boots," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and that he had never been in Prison before; was One Week in *Newgate* before Trial, in what is called the Chapel Yard; there were upwards of Thirty Prisoners in it, some of them tried and some untried, Five or Six of them had been convicted before, and One of them no less than Four Times; there were Persons for different Offences, some for Housebreaking, some for Highway Robbery, some for stealing Poultry, Ten or Eleven for passing bad Money, (they were called "Smashers,") and several for picking of Pockets; slept in a Room with about Twenty Prisoners; Three slept on Two Mats placed on the Ground; there were no Bedsteads; both in the Airing-yard and in the Room this Youth describes the Conduct and Language made use of by the greater Number of Prisoners he was obliged to associate with as most depraved and shocking; his Pockets were frequently picked, and they robbed one another; there was gambling carried on all Day long; Card-playing, Pitch and Toss, and Chuck Farthing; some boasting of their former Robberies, some cursing and swearing, some telling of obscene Stories, and some singing vile Songs; there was a Wardsman who had been a tried Prisoner upwards of Two Years, he was appointed to keep Order and Regularity in the Yard and in the Room, but he was full as bad as any of the rest; Provisions were allowed to be received from Friends, or to be purchased; the Wardsman sold Bread, and used to keep back Part of the Meat allowed, and sell it at Night to the Prisoners; the Wardsman had the Bread from one of the Turnkeys named ——— ———; this Boy has sometimes paid 6*d.* and sometimes 7*d.* to the Wardsman for a Half-quartern Loaf; Porter and Ale were brought in and sold, there was no Limitation as to Quantity; *after Trial* he was placed in what is called the North Side, there were upwards of Twenty-five, all tried Prisoners; exclusive of the Prison Allowance, Prisoners might and did receive Provisions from their Friends, or might purchase them if they had Money; he, *after Trial*, once received from his Friends 3 lbs. of Pork Chops, a Plumb Pudding between 3 and 4 lbs. Weight, and a Plumb Cake after Twelfth Day; had occasionally Milk and Beer; the Conversation in the North Side was worse, if possible, than in the Chapel Yard; there was a Wardsman there also, full as bad as any of them; was near a Month in the North Side after Trial, when he was removed to the *Euryalus Hulk* at Woolwich; was only there Two Days, when he was removed to the Penitentiary; whilst on board the Euryalus was placed in No. 7, top Deck, with Eighteen Prisoners; the Prisoners never left the Ship; they were all Boys except the Clerk, the Cook, and a Prisoner who cleaned about; in No. 7, One of the Boys, was appointed to keep Order and Regularity, and to report to the Captain any one who made use of bad Language, sung Songs, or attempted to game; he was a steady Boy, and reported Three or Four whilst he was on board, some for gaming and some for swearing; they were caned by one of the Guards; no Provisions were permitted but the Ship Allowance; Friends might bring a little Fruit, but nothing else; there was School kept in the Chapel for nearly Two Hours every Day except Sunday; the Chaplain also occasionally attended; for the Two Days he was on board the Ganymede he was placed in No. 3 Division, with Twenty-four Prisoners; never heard any bad Language, or cursing or swearing, during that Time; would prefer any Place to Newgate, and prefers the Penitentiary to the Euryalus, because he is kept clean and gets a great deal more Instruction; could read and write a little when received.

——— ——— (*Carmarthen Gaol, Ganymede and Fortitude Hulks.*)

Is Twenty-nine Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 24th of April 1835 from the Fortitude Hulk at Chatham, having been tried at the Sessions held at Carmarthen on the 7th January last; he was convicted of "stealing Wearing Apparel, &c."

was

357

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary Milbank.

was sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; he was a Soldier in the ——— and deserted from it twice; for the First Offence he was confined in the Black Hole for Fourteen Days, and confined to Barracks Six Months; has not been taken since he deserted the Second Time; asserts that he is innocent of the Offence for which he was tried, and had never been in Prison before; was about Seven Weeks in Carmarthen Gaol before Trial, and Three Weeks after Trial; (the Customs of this Gaol correspond exactly with ——— ——— Statement, see Page 25;) was removed from Carmarthen Gaol to the Ganymede Hulk at Woolwich; was on board Three Weeks and Three Days; was transferred to the *Transport Ship*, the *Marquis of Huntley*, at Woolwich, when she was receiving Convicts for New South Wales; she had on board about 300; was in her Ten Days, when she dropped down to Sheerness, when, through the Intercession of ——— ——— he was sent to the Penitentiary, and was taken out of the Marquis of Huntley for that Purpose; was placed on board the Fortitude Hulk at Chatham; was in her Three Weeks; was transferred to the Justitia at Woolwich; was in that Hulk Eight Days, when he was sent to the Penitentiary; whilst on board the *Ganymede* he was placed in the 4th Class, in the bottom Deck; believes there were not less than Forty Prisoners in the same Division; they were so crowded that in some Instances the Hammocks were in Three Tiers, one over the other; was appointed to the Rigging House Gang, which worked in the Dock Yard (about a Dozen Prisoners); there was a Gangsman, but neither Guard nor Sentry; the Gangsman did not work himself, but made the others work, and showed them what to do; his Name was ———; he had been upwards of Three Years in the Ganymede; he was a very decent steady Man; never heard him make use of any improper Language, nor did he suffer any of his Gang to do so; he did not belong to the bottom Deck; at Half-past Four o'Clock in the Evening the Gang returned to the Hulk, and went to their respective Divisions; Candles (which were purchased by the Prisoners) were allowed to be lighted until Eight, when they were all obliged to go to their Hammocks; the Conversation amongst so many Persons was of all Kinds, some talked decently and properly, some talked of their Trials and former Convictions (one Man had been at Bermuda for Six Years), some of them wished to be sent Abroad, some cursed and swore, many talked profanely and indecently; no singing was permitted, but Songs were sung (and not of a very moral Nature) in an under Tone of Voice; there were Robberies frequently taking place at Night; no Spirits nor Malt Liquors allowed; no gaming. When placed in the Marquis of Huntley there were 150 Men on either Side of the Deck, with sleeping Berths, Five Men in a Berth; it is scarcely possible to describe the horrid Language commonly made use of, and the Dirt and Filth of the Deck; he thinks he could not have lived long in such a Place, and was truly thankful when he found himself on board the *Fortitude*, where he was placed in No. 7. Class, top Deck, with Thirty-two Prisoners; there was a Wardsman appointed to each Class; the Wardsman in No. 7. was called ———, he was very strict, and kept up good Order and Regularity in his Division, and was not in the slightest Fear of any of them; when they attempted to talk or sing improperly he immediately put a Stop to it; no Robbery was committed in that Division, nor any gaming permitted; no Provisions but the Ship's Allowance were permitted, except One White Loaf and One Gallon of Potatoes weekly for each Prisoner, which he paid for. On board the *Justitia* the Regulations were similar to the Fortitude; there was a Gangsman and a Wardsman to Sixteen Prisoners, and they maintained Order and Decency amongst the rest, and set them a good Example; never heard any cursing or swearing or bad Language whilst he was in the Justitia; has been but a few Days in the Penitentiary, and has been for that Time in strict solitary Confinement, never having been out of his Cell; nevertheless, from the Silence, Cleanliness, and kind Treatment, he prefers it to any Place he has yet been in; can read a little, but not write.

——— ——— (*Jedburgh Gaol and Justitia Hulk.*)

Is Twenty-six Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary from the Justitia Hulk on the 28th November 1834, having been tried at the Assizes held at Jedburgh on the 16th of September in that Year; he was convicted of "stabbing," and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; asserts this to have been his First Offence, and had never been in Prison before; was about Three Months in *Jedburgh Gaol* before Trial; on his first Committal was placed in a small Cell by himself, and was kept in solitary Confinement for Seven Days, until he had undergone an Examination by the Fiscal and Sheriff Depute, when he was placed with Three or Four other untried Prisoners in a Day-room; there was a small Airing-yard attached to it, where the Prisoners took exercise for One Hour in the Morning and One Hour in the Afternoon; there were Bibles and Prayer Books in the Room, and each Prisoner had a separate sleeping Cell; 5*d.* was allowed daily for each Prisoner, and he had an Option of laying out that Sum himself or of taking the Governor's Diet, which was about a Quart of Oatmeal Porridge and Milk for Breakfast, One Quart of Barley Broth and a Penny Roll for Dinner, and a Quart of Oatmeal Porridge and Milk for Supper; no Prisoner had any Control over the rest; there was no Restraint as to Conversation, but no Noise or Singing was permitted; there were but a few, and they were very decent and proper in their Conduct; after Trial he was placed in another Ward, with only another Prisoner, for Six Weeks; they slept together; he was a decent Man, and was convicted

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Millbank.

convicted of poaching; he was then sent to the *Justitia Hulk* at Woolwich, was placed in No. 4. Class, lower Deck; there were from Forty to Fifty Convicts in it; it was very much crowded, and there were Three Tiers of Hammocks one over the other; there was a Lamp kept burning all Night, and there was a Prisoner appointed to maintain Order and Regularity; he was decent and steady, and did his best to keep every thing quiet, nevertheless there was a great deal of very improper Conversation, cursing and swearing, obscene Talk, and Stories of their former Course of Life, and boasting of their Wickedness; was nearly a Month on board, when he was removed to the Penitentiary; he was most thankful to be removed from such a Set; considers the strict Discipline and Silence of the Penitentiary as a severe Punishment, but nevertheless he is well taken care of and well instructed, and is not subject to Contamination from either Conversation or Communication with other Prisoners, and freely and feelingly admits that if it should be his Son's Fate to be placed in Confinement he prays to God that he may never be put into a Hulk or visit any Prison where he would be suffered to mix with other Prisoners; could read and write a little when admitted.

——— ——— (*Newgate, and Leviathan Hulk.*)

Is Twenty-six Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 24th January 1835 from the Leviathan Hulk, having been tried at the Old Bailey on the 24th November 1834; he was convicted of "stealing Three Ends of Cloth," and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts his Innocence of the Offence for which he was tried, and declares he had never been in Prison before; was committed to *Newgate* on the 11th of November last; was placed in the Middle Yard; there might have been Forty Prisoners, all of them untried, the Wardsman excepted, who had been convicted about Two Years before; he was appointed to maintain Order and Decency, and he did his best to do so; as there was no Restraint as to Conversation, there was frequent cursing and swearing, quarrelling and fighting, and obscene Language (this Man's Account of Newgate mainly corresponds with ——— Statement, Page 36); the Wardsman in this Ward did not sell any thing to the Prisoners except his own Prison Bread. Was removed to the *Leviathan Hulk* at Portsmouth on the 4th December last; was placed in the lower Deck, No. 6. Cell, where there were from Twelve to Fifteen Convicts; they slept in Hammocks; there was a Wardsman in it, a very steady Man, who had been Five Years in the Ship; he never reported any body whilst he was on board; the Convicts returned from their Work in the Dock Yard between Four and Five o'Clock in the Evening, they then took their Hammocks from the Main Deck to their respective Divisions; Lights were permitted 'till Eight o'Clock; there was a Lamp with Oil for each Cell found by the Ship, but there was an old Prisoner called the Boatswain's Mate, who sold Candles to the other Convicts; at Eight o'Clock the Lights were put out in the Cells and the Doors locked, but from Half past Four until Eight the Convicts of one Cell might go to any other Cell in the Deck; during this Time there was very bad Conversation carried on, cursing and swearing often, with Histories of former Exploits; never saw any gaming; saw Bibles and Prayer Books in No. 6. Cell, and saw Men occasionally reading them; from New Year's Day last no Provisions were allowed to be received or purchased, except Potatoes and White Bread, the latter could only be had once a Week, but a Prisoner, one of the Washermen, sold Potatoes daily; believes he is indebted to ——— for having him sent to the Penitentiary, and is most thankful to find himself where he is; could both read and write when received.

——— ——— (*Newgate, and York Hulk.*)

Is Fifty Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 11th December 1834 from the York Hulk, having been tried at the Old Bailey on the 4th September in that Year; he was convicted of stealing 12 lbs. of Sugar, and sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years; asserts this to have been a First Offence, and that he never had been in Prison before; was in Newgate about Eight Weeks before Trial, and was placed in the Chapel Yard; there was a large Day-room where tried and untried Prisoners were placed together; there were some very old Offenders; the general Tenor of the Conversation and Language was most horrid and shocking to any one who was not totally depraved; after Trial was placed in what is called the North Side, where the Conduct, Conversation, and Language was worse, if possible, than in the Chapel Yard; they were continually robbing one another, nay, even in Chapel, has seen Boys pick their Fellow Prisoners Pockets; the Wardsman in the Chapel Yard was a decent Man, but the one in the North Side was as bad, or even worse, than the others, he was a most notorious Character, and used to quarrel and fight, curse and swear; there was no Difference as to Prisoners before or after Trial; cold Meat, Bread, Cheese, Tea, Sugar, Coffee, or Potatoes could be brought in by Friends or purchased; Porter could be purchased twice a Day, there was no Limitation as to Quantity; never saw any Spirits; the Wardsman sold Tobacco; never knew any of the Officers to sell any thing. Was removed from Newgate about the latter End of September last to the *York Hulk* at Gosport, but in consequence of Sickness was for the greater

359

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

greater Part of his Time in the Hospital Ship; was not more than One Week in the York, was placed in the lower Deck with about Sixteen Prisoners, including the Wardsman, who was a quiet decent Man, and did all he could to maintain Regularity, prevented smoking, which, although prohibited, very often took place; exclusive of the Ship Allowance, Prisoners might purchase White Bread, Potatoes, Butter, Sugar, Coffee, or Tea, not exceeding 1*s.* weekly for each Man; no Spirits or Malt Liquors were permitted; has heard Conversation nearly as bad as at Newgate, some boasting of former Robberies, and how often they had been in different Prisons, some cursing and swearing, others talking most obscenely; never saw any gaming going on whilst he was on board, and they very seldom robbed one another; would sooner pass the whole of his Life in the Penitentiary, or even in the strictest State of Solitude, than be placed either in the Hulks or in Newgate; could read and write a little when received.

——— ——— (*Newgate.*)

States that he is Forty-one Years of Age; was received into the Penitentiary on the 24th January 1835 from Newgate, where he was committed on the 10th of December last, and was tried at the Old Bailey on the 20th of that Month, convicted of embezzling the Sum of 1,051*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* from his Employers, and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation; was never in Prison or before a Magistrate until the present Offence, which he asserts to be his First; when committed to Newgate he was placed in what is called "the Receiving Ward," was in it for One Night, during which Time there might have been Twelve or Fourteen Prisoners received into the same Ward; each Person had a Bed, but they all slept in the same Room; thinks he went into the Receiving Ward about Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, and remained in it until One o'Clock on the following Day, when having been inspected by the Surgeon (Prisoner believes there is no resident Surgeon) he was placed in Chapel Yard, No. 10. Ward, which is appropriated to a better Description of Prisoners; thinks there were Nine or Ten in No. 10. Ward besides himself; during the short Time he was in the Receiving Ward he heard cursing, swearing, and most obscene Language; on his Removal to No. 10. Ward that was not the Case, the Persons there being generally decent in their Manner and Language; had a separate Bed in that Ward, although the Prisoners all slept in the same Room; had access to Religious Books; asserts that both before and after Trial his Friends principally supplied him with Provisions, the Bread excepted, which was very good; received cold Meat, such as roast Beef, Meat Pies, Ham, and Cheese; bought Porter from the Person who supplies the Prison; was limited to Two Pints a Day, for which he paid 3½*d.*; the other Prisoners in No. 10. Ward received also Provisions from their Friends both before and after Trial, and they were likewise limited to Two Pints of Porter daily, but believes some contrived to get more; gives a Preference to the System of Silence observed in the Penitentiary to the unrestrained Conversation permitted in Newgate, even in No. 10. Ward, the most select in that Prison; has been well educated.

Ilchester and Shepton Mallett Gaols.

1. ——— ———
2. Thirty-six Years of Age.
3. Received from Ilchester Gaol on the 29th November 1834.
4. Seven Weeks; was committed from Bath to Shepton Mallett House of Correction, where he remained Forty-nine Days previous to Trial; was taken to Taunton Gaol for Trial, where he remained One Week; after Trial was removed to Ilchester Gaol, where he remained Six Weeks previous to his coming to this Institution.
5. Stealing Two Gold Watches.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was never in any Prison before he was committed to Shepton Mallett Gaol for his present Offence.
8. Is aware of the Conduct and Conversation of Prisoners where Silence is not enforced; when committed to Shepton Mallett Gaol was placed with about Seventeen others, a very rough Set indeed; were composed of Sheep-stealers, Housebreakers, and divers petty Offenders; several had, by their own Confession, been previously convicted; Men and Boys were mingled together; their Conversation was very obscene and blasphemous; many former Feats of Crime, some of them extraordinary, were narrated to amuse those who were present; several had been in other Prisons, where they had encountered other desperate Offenders, and they narrated the guilty Adventures they had learnt from these; those ignorant of Crime were instructed how they might perpetrate it with Safety, and avoid Detection in future; the most ignorant must, in a short Time, have become skilled; nothing, in fact, but Obscenity, Blasphemy, and Crime formed the Subject of their Conversation; it is quite impossible to pass through such Scenes and not be contaminated; saw Scenes he never before imagined; Religion was scoffed at; Bibles and Religious Books provided, but never saw them made use of; used himself to read his Bible, and was never

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

interrupted or annoyed for doing so; if one of the depraved Set had been disposed to withdraw himself for such a Purpose he would have been greatly set upon; no Attempt made by Prison Regulations to control this Intercourse; gaming was constantly going on, Pea and Thimble, pricking in the Garter, and other Games; was after a short Time removed to another Ward, which the Governor called a decent Ward; there were at first only Three Prisoners in it, but it subsequently filled up to Twenty-two; though said to be of a better Description they were as bad as the others; the same Scenes and Subjects throughout; the daily Prison Allowance before Trial is 1 lb. of Brown Bread, 3 oz. of Oatmeal made into 2½ Pints of Gruel, 1 lb. of Potatoes, and Salt, 4 oz. of Mutton on Sundays; but Prisoners are allowed to keep themselves, and any thing is allowed except Spirits; each Prisoner who can afford it is allowed to purchase a Quart of Ale or Cider daily, or a Pint of Wine; but One sleeping Room to each Ward; Seventeen slept in One Night Cell, (these afterwards increased to Twenty-six,) and Twenty-two in the other; were locked up in the Night Cells from about Five o'Clock in the Afternoon to about Seven in the Morning; the worst Scenes took place in the Night Cells; after the Prisoners are counted into the Night Cell, the Turnkey locks them up and leaves them for the Night; then commences obscene singing, and the Narration of Stories too horrid to be thought of, and many Indecencies; this sometimes lasted through the whole Night; he often, during this Time, thought of the bad State of the Law, which permitted such a Den of Iniquity; if total Silence could be observed, many of these Evils would be remedied; does not believe that any thing approaching to Silence could be maintained through the Instrumentality of Prisoners; doubts if any Prisoner would be faithful to his Trust, even if he undertook it, because he is making a Rod for himself; most would feel it a Rod to be kept to Silence, and however respectable a Man may be when he enters such a Place he soon feels as one of them; even if disposed to be faithful he dare not, his very Life would be in Danger; was himself exposed to great Danger; had his Provisions drugged, and became seriously ill, and did not dare complain; was obliged to conform to the Habits of the Place for Safety; is satisfied that nothing but Separation can prevent Contamination; the Wardsman was a convicted Prisoner; all the rest, untried; Head Turnkey brought whatever he required, and Prisoner settled with him about once a Week; no Officer in either the Yard or Day-room; the Turnkeys came at the Time the Provisions were served out, but rarely visited the Yards at other Times; after Trial was Six Weeks in Ilchester Gaol; was placed in a Yard and Day-room with Fifteen Convicts, Transports principally, but Three were for short Imprisonments; during the Day no Restraint whatever was placed upon the talking; the same Causes of Contamination still at work, they fought, they blasphemed, and spoke of every thing that is bad; no Labour; nothing to do but to dissipate the Time in the Way most suited to each Man's Taste; daily Gaol Allowance after Trial at Ilchester was 1 lb. of White Bread, 3 oz. of Oatmeal made into 2½ Pints of Gruel, 1 lb. of Potatoes, and Salt, and 4 oz. of Beef on Sundays; no Provisions allowed to be brought in whatever, nor did any worth mentioning find its Way in; no Beer nor any thing of that Kind allowed; permitted to have Snuff if it can be paid for; no Tobacco or Smoking allowed, but it found its Way in, and there was smoking; at Night, sleep in separate Cells, but as a Matter of Favour was placed in a boarded sleeping Room with Three others, all well-conducted Men.

9. Would himself prefer total Silence and Separation, both together, to being exposed to such vile Company as are met with in such Places, because at Peace and Quietude, but it would not suit the depraved at all.

10. Has been well educated.

Ipswich and Beccles Gaols.

1. ——— ———

2 Seventeen Years of Age.

3. Received from Ipswich Gaol on the 27th October 1834.

4. Rather better than Three Weeks in Beccles Gaol, Suffolk; Four Days after Trial was removed to Ipswich Gaol, where he remained Ten Days, and was then removed to this Institution.

5. Stealing Monies to the Amount of 40*l.*, the Property of his Master.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Never in any Prison before.

8. Was not placed with any other Prisoners before Trial, as from the first he preferred being by himself, and was permitted to be in a Yard alone, and so he continued up to the Time of his Trial; in the adjoining Yard there were about Ten or a Dozen for Trial; heard constant Noise and Uproar, swearing and quarrelling; Chaplain visited the Prisoners every Day, but after he was gone he was scoffed at, and even whilst he was there they laughed in his Face; has Reason to know that good and bad were mingled together, and when one got a Bible the others would not allow him to read it in quiet; considers that no one could be placed in such a Situation, and escape Contamination; slept in a separate Cell at Night; believes the others also have separate Cells at Night; if Silence was maintained he thinks it would prevent the Contamination, but does not think that Silence could be

361

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

be maintained by the Prisoners, for they would not keep Silence even when the Officers were present; thinks perhaps about One in Fifty of Prisoners generally might be depended upon to act with Fidelity to their Officers; the Gaol Allowance was from 2 lbs. to 3 lbs. of White Bread daily, and about ½ lb. of Cheese per Week; nothing else; but Friends were allowed to send in any Provisions, and a small Quantity of Beer daily; after Trial was Ten Days in Ipswich Gaol; the average Number of Prisoners with whom he was placed, Nine or Ten; all Noise was forbidden, but no Restraint when talking in a low Tone; was put on the Tread-wheel; could talk there; the Conversation was obscene, blasphemous, and frequently respecting Crime; the ignorant in Crime might have been instructed; was much exposed to Contamination; Gaol Allowance at Ipswich, after Trial, 2 lbs. of Bread daily, and ½ lb. of Cheese per Week; those employed on the Wheel had more; slept in a separate Cell; some slept Two in a Cell.

9. Would prefer total Silence, and even total Separation, to mingling with other Prisoners; showed this by choosing to be alone before Trial, because he wished, as much as possible, to avoid such Discourse as is carried on in a Prison.

10. Both; has had a decent Education.

Jedburgh Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Thirty-four Years of Age.

3. Received from Jedburgh Gaol 23d November 1833.

4. From the 29th April 1833 to the 11th of September; all that Time (nearly Five Months) in Jedburgh Gaol.

5. Forgery.

6. Transportation for Life; commuted to Ten Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before.

8. Is aware of the Sort of Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners where Silence is not maintained; was in a Day-room and Yard with Nine Individuals of different Characters, Two of them were Transports under Seven Years Sentences, who remained about Two Months, Two others were convicted Poachers under Sentence of Eighteen Months Imprisonment, Two were convicted Smugglers under Sentence of Three Months, and Three were untried; during this Time the Nature of the Conversation was of the loosest Description, much Obscenity and Blasphemy, they seemed to glory in what they had done, and narrated their Thefts and Adventures, what they had escaped, and what Troubles they had fallen into; one of the Convicts had been with what he called capital Hands, and from them had learnt his Trade, thieving, for he had no other; this he took every Opportunity of communicating to others; it was not possible for a Man under such Circumstances to escape Contamination; a great deal of gaming was constantly going on, though not allowed; Card-playing, Drafts, Pitch and Toss, and all Kinds of low gaming; had the Means of observing what went on in an adjoining Day-room, where there were about Twelve at One Time, and, if possible, Men of a worse Description, though principally for petty Crimes; the Conduct and Conversation was exactly of the same Description, and of the worst Kind possible to be conceived; they slept Two and Three in the Night Cells, and the Cells were opposite one another down a Passage, where they could freely converse together from Cell to Cell; there was singing every Night for Two or Three Hours together; Religion never thought of, except to be scoffed, and in a Manner disgusting to be seen; there is a Bible in each Cell, seldom or never saw them used; *5d.* allowed daily for each Prisoner's Food; the Governor receives the Money and furnishes the Food, Oatmeal Porridge and Milk, as much as a Man can eat, Twice a Day, and Barley Broth and a Penny Loaf for Dinner; any Provisions and extra Bedding might be provided by Prisoners or their Friends, if they could afford it; about a Pint of Beer a Day allowed, if Prisoners can pay for it, but an Order for this from the presiding Magistrate is necessary; Turnkey sold the Prisoners, who could afford to buy, Tea, Butter, and other Articles; no Officer ever came into the Yard or Day-room; they were at hand to prevent Escape, but never to act as a Check; if Silence or Separation were maintained most of these Evils would be prevented; believes that Prisoners are not capable or worthy of being trusted to preserve Order, though some few might be found who might, if authorized and upheld, do much in restraining such Excesses as he has witnessed in Jedburgh Gaol, but he fears that few, if any, would have Courage and Command to maintain Order, they would expose themselves to much Annoyance and some Danger, perhaps even of their Lives in many Instances; came up in the Vessel from Leith with Fifty Prisoners, principally from Glasgow, all Convicts; was Twelve Days with them; what he then witnessed will never be erased from his Memory; there were Twelve Officers in charge of them, but had no Control over them, and when the Men were fighting desperately said, let them fight it out and go their Lengths; they also purchased their Bibles and their Clothes in a shameful Manner; has had Means of knowing the State in the Jedburgh Bridewell, no Order, no System, no Regulations, allowed to give loose to all Kinds of Blackguardism and Villany; Contamination to the last Degree must take place there.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

9. Would prefer an entire Separation and total Silence; as far as the Ends of Justice are concerned, and as far as his own Comforts are concerned, Silence and Separation would be far preferable; if a Man has any Respectability or Integrity he might then retain it; the depraved would feel it a great Punishment, more so even than the Confinement.

10. Has been well educated.

Inverness Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-two Years of Age.

3. Received from Inverness Gaol on the 7th of June 1834.

4. Was out on Bail until the Time of his Trial; after Trial was Twenty-three Days in Inverness Gaol with Five others.

5. Assault.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in Prison before; never stood before a Magistrate or Judge before that.

8. Is aware of the Conduct and Conversation of Prisoners where Silence is not maintained; Three of the Five with whom he was placed were the wickedest Characters possible; Two were disposed to use their Books, but the other Three were trying to put them off it by crying out and cursing and swearing; if a Man was put into Inverness Gaol for a small Offence, and knew but little of Crime, living with those wicked Characters, it would soon be put out of his Mind that he was ever brought up in a better Way; there was gaming, Card-playing, and low Kinds of Play, though not allowed; no Officer to keep Order, indeed none slept in the Prison; at Eight at Night the Prison was locked up, and the Officers went away to sleep at their own Houses, and returned at Eight next Morning; visited the Cells Three Times in the course of the Day, but not to keep Order, only to see the Prisoners were safe; by Day and by Night, but especially at Night, there was Noise and obscene singing, and no one to stop them; was allowed Sixpence a Day; the Turnkey paid it each Prisoner every Morning at Eight o'Clock, and a Woman visited the Wards Three Times a Day and received Money of the Prisoners to go and purchase what they wanted; every Thing was allowed except Spirits; Beer or Porter was permitted daily, and those who had Money of their own were allowed to spend it, in addition to the Gaol Allowance; if Silence were kept, much Mischief would be prevented; does not think Prisoners could keep Order; not to be trusted; one that would do that had need to be like Joseph; not many such to be found; thinks he would be in danger by other Prisoners, and soon would give in to the rest; there were Bibles in each Cell; Minister belonging to the Town visited the Prison once a Week, every Sunday Evening, for Two Hours; never saw him treated with Disrespect.

9. Would much prefer to be kept silent and separate, and was wanting to be kept separate in Inverness Gaol, and was always asking to be so, and was promised to be put alone, but only remained so short a Time; was brought up better, and has no Delight in their Way at all.

10. Could read when admitted, and write a little.

Kirkdale Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Eighteen Years of Age.

3. Received from Kirkdale Gaol on the 15th of November 1834.

4. Was Ten Weeks in Prison before Trial, and nearly Twenty Weeks after Trial, before removed to this Institution.

5. Stealing Two Pairs of Scales and Balances, and Thirty Pieces of Copper Coin.

6. Fourteen Years Transportation, commuted to Seven Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before, or before a Magistrate charged with any Offence.

8. When committed to Kirkdale Gaol for Trial was placed in No. 14. Yard, with about Forty others; a great many of these were convicted, and sentenced to One Month's Imprisonment, and were serving their Time with the untried Prisoners; heard a good deal of swearing and Talk which he did not wish to hear; if a young Man entered that was innocent, he would soon learn what he otherwise must have remained ignorant of all his Life; talking was allowed; no Officer present in the Yard, except when they were getting their Victuals; slept Three in a Cell before Trial; no Bibles were provided or Books of any Sort; went to Chapel for Prayers every Morning, and once each Sunday; only One in all the Yard seemed to pay any Attention to Religion; daily Gaol Allowance, 1 lb. of Brown Bread, 1 Pint of Oatmeal Gruel, and 1 Quart of a Mixture of Potatoes and a few Bits of Meat, or Soup, or 1 lb. of Potatoes and 2 ozs. of Bacon; playing Ball and Chequers was going on, and he believes was allowed; Friends contrive to bring in Provisions and a little Tobacco; was Twenty Weeks after Trial in No. 16. Yard, with Twenty Transports; no Work; spent the Day in Idleness, and in the best Way to kill the Time; playing Chequers or Ball; there was very bad Talk; the longer a Man stops in such a Place the worse he is.

9. Would

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

9. Would rather prefer to be in total Silence than to be amongst such a Set, because it is not good for any Youth to be amongst such a Sort; does not suppose that Silence could be kept by means of Prisoners; very few to be depended upon; such a one would lead a weary Life; he might as well be put out of his Misery at once; no Officer could keep Silence he thinks amongst such; nothing but Separation would do it.

10. Could read when he came here, and write a little.

Lancaster Castle and Justitia Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty Years of Age.

3. Received from the Justitia Hulk on the 30th of May 1833; was Six Weeks there; before that was in Lancaster Castle.

4. Sixteen Weeks in Lancaster Castle before Trial, and Two Weeks after; he was then removed to the Hulks.

5. Manslaughter.

6. Seven Years Transportation, commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before, or charged with any Offence, or before a Magistrate.

8. When first committed to Lancaster Castle was placed in a Yard and Day-room with about Twenty more; before Trial they increased to between Thirty and Forty; all were Prisoners for Trial, except the Wardsman, who was a Convict under Sentence of Two Years Imprisonment; at Night they slept either One or Three in a Cell; Noise and singing for Two or Three Hours every Night; no Officer in the Yard or Day-room; One occasionally visited them; were permitted to talk to each other; some of all Sorts were there; much Talk about Crime; much swearing and indecent Talk; some had been in Prison before, some had been transported before, and some who seemed to take a Delight in telling what they had done; old Hands commonly teach the young ones, and tell them how they are to go on in future so that they may not be found out; learnt a great deal that was bad there himself, more to his Sorrow; quite impossible for a Man to keep himself uncontaminated in such a Place; some said if they got quit they would go at it again, and now they knew better how; this was particularly the Case amongst the Coiners of base Money, of whom there were Numbers; mock Trials were going on daily for Sport and Pastime, and to make up a Defence so as to evade Justice; gaming was constantly going on; played for their Provisions; Religion scoffed at; Two or Three were seriously disposed, much annoyed in consequence; no Bibles or any Kind of Books were provided, but Prisoners were allowed to bring them in; went to Chapel every Day for Prayers, and twice on the Sunday; a wretched bad Place altogether; daily Prison Allowance before Trial was 1lb. of Bread, 2 Quarts of Oatmeal Gruel, 1lb. of Potatoes, 4ozs. of Beef Five Days per Week, and 1 Quart of Soup the other Two Days; such as could afford it were allowed to keep themselves; Friends might send Money to the Turnkeys, who bought the Provisions, and charged so much per Week for their Trouble; any Kind of Provisions were allowed, and a Quart of Beer or a Pint of Wine daily; Turnkeys sold Spanish Liquorice to the Prisoners; Silence would prevent much of this Mischief; thinks they could not keep Silence and all of them be together; could not keep Silence by means of Prisoners; very few to be trusted; all would set against such, so that they would have no Comfort of their Life; they would soon be bantered down; only to be done by Separation; worse before Trial than after Trial, at Lancaster, for Contamination; nothing to do, and always contriving Mischief; but even after Trial all were together the same, but then they had Work to do, and that rather occupied them; was on board the Hulks Six Weeks, and that was, in every Way, still worse; more Wickedness if possible.

9. Had rather be in a Place by himself, or in total Silence, than be amongst such a rough Set; it is the biggest Punishment to be amongst such; always quarrelling and fighting, and no Peace.

10. Could read and write before he came to this Institution.

Leicester Gaol and Justitia Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-four Years of Age.

3. Received from the Justitia Hulk on the 13th of April 1835.

4. Eight Days in Leicester Gaol before Trial, and Three Weeks after Trial.

5. Stealing Shoes.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Never in Prison before; never before a Magistrate in his Life before.

8. When committed to Leicester Gaol was placed in a Yard with Seven more; during the Day all were together; at Night each had a separate Cell; all but One had been in Prison several Times, and some of them were very bad Characters; all were allowed to communicate together freely; the Conduct was very bad; and the Conversation, different Tales

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

of Wickedness and Crime, swearing and singing, and some indecent Talk; when he entered that Prison was quite ignorant of Crime, but if he had given Ear to what he heard there might soon have learnt how do that which would have brought him there again; Religion much scoffed at; when he was disposed to read his Books, would begin to sing Songs, or go out into the Yard to walk; no Officer in the Yard; no Superintendence, or any Effort to keep Order; nothing was kept under, but a great Noise; was allowed to find his own Provisions *previous and after* Trial; any Provisions allowed to be brought in, and as much Small Beer as they wished to send for; no Bibles were provided for the Ward; no Visits from the Clergyman; went to Chapel for Prayers on Thursday, and once each Sunday; the same Number were together after Trial, and just the same Scenes and Conversations were carried on; after Sentence was still allowed any Provisions his Friends liked to send in, and small Beer; it was a very bad Place, and calculated to do much Harm; Silence would stop much of this Mischief, if it could be kept; not to be done by Prisoners; would make all Manner of Game of the Monitor, and make his Life very uncomfortable; not many to be trusted.

9. Would prefer a System of total Silence; was never so miserable in all his Life as he was at Leicester and at the Hulks, through the Vice he heard and saw there; would choose Solitude even, though that is a great Punishment, to escape from such a Set; the depraved would not like it; they want like Companions to keep their Hearts up; but it would be for their own good a great deal to be kept separate.

10. Could read and write before he was admitted to this Institution; every Evil he complains of in Leicester Prison was much worse at the Hulks, where he was Nine Weeks; he thinks that every one must get worse and worse there, and in fact all of them do.

Litchfield Goal.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-four Years of Age.

3. Received from Litchfield Gaol on the 6th of November 1832.

4. Three Days before Trial, and Two Months and Twelve Days after Trial.

5. Privately stealing Wearing Apparel, Value under 5*l*.

6. Seven Years Transportation, commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Never in Prison before, or before a Magistrate.

8. Was placed in a Ward with Six others; by Day they were all together and quite unrestrained; by Night slept Two in a Cell, but as it was just the Eve of their Trials they were all thinking of that, and spoke of little else; heard very little that was bad; after Trial was placed with Three others; worked on the Mill by Day, and slept Two in a Cell at Night; One had been a Transport before; during the Two Months the Conversation was not what it ought to have been; there was swearing and indecent Talk, but this was confined to Two of the Men; heard talk of Crime; what he heard was calculated to do him Harm; it would have been a good deal better if they had been kept silent, it would have prevented much Mischief; no Officer to restrain them; does not think One Prisoner could keep the others quiet; never heard any thing about Religion; no Chaplain; no Service on the Sunday during the whole Time Prisoner was there (Two Months and Fifteen Days); had Sixpence a Day both before and after Trial, to find themselves; the Turnkey bought the Provision for the Prisoners, but about a Fortnight before he left the Money was stopped, and a daily Allowance of 2 lbs. of Bread, 1 lb. of Potatoes, and 2 Quarts of Porridge was provided; Tobacco and Smoking was allowed to those who could afford to buy it; no gaming.

9. Would prefer total Silence and Solitude in such a Place, though it was not so very bad, to mingling with the other Prisoners, because he wished to keep quiet by himself, and because the less a Man hears in a Prison the better.

10. Could read well and write a little when he came here.

Lincoln and Folkingham Gaols.

1. ——— ———

2. Forty-nine Years.

3. Received from Lincoln Castle on the 3d of February 1835.

4. Was Twelve Weeks in Folkingham Gaol, Lincolnshire, before Trial; was removed to Lincoln after Trial, and remained there Three Weeks before he was removed to this Institution.

5. Horse-stealing.

6. Transportation for Life, commuted to Ten Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was in Prison for a Month in Folkingham Gaol about Fourteen Years ago, for neglecting his Family and leaving a Job of Work unfinished, which was the only Time, except the present, he was ever in a Place of Confinement.

8. When committed to Folkingham Gaol was placed in a Yard and Day-room with Ten others, all for Trial; all together and unrestrained by Day; each had a separate Cell by Night;

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary Millbank.

Night; some were bad Characters and had been previously convicted, and had been in several different Gaols before; One, Eight Times before; Boys, young and old Men, were all together in the same Ward; the Conversation was very indifferent; there was swearing, and telling Tales of Adventures, and what had been done before, and what they had seen and known in other Gaols; when he would take the Bible to read to others they would say d——n the Book, or b———r the Book; Religion was scoffed at; a Man might have learnt every thing that was bad, indeed it could be hardly otherwise; the Governor endeavoured to keep Order, and was very strict, but when so many are together they cannot be kept under; Prisoners used to play at Fox and Geese, and Checkers, but it was not allowed; Silence would do much Good, if it could be kept; don't see how that could be; One Prisoner being set over the others might do some Good, and keep down the worst of it; thinks some few might be found who would do their Duty, but never to any great Extent; would always lean to the Prisoners; a Man would be very uncomfortable who did not; thinks they could not be kept silent without being separate; the Gaol Allowance was 1½ lb. of White Bread and 1 Quart of Oatmeal Gruel daily, and 1 lb. of Beef per Week; nothing allowed to be brought in, even before Trial; no Prisoner allowed to keep himself, nor were Friends allowed to visit the Prisoners before Trial without an Order from the Magistrates.

9. In the State of Mind in which he is now would prefer total Silence, because there is a better Opportunity of making their Requests known to God; in Company, the Mind is very easily drawn away to Evil; bad Characters would think it a great Punishment.

10. Could read, write, and keep Accounts when admitted into this Institution.

Lincoln, Skirbeck, and Spalding Gaols.

1. ——— ———

2. Thirty-two Years of Age.

3. Received from Lincoln Gaol on the 30th of July 1833.

4. Was a Fortnight in Skirbeck House of Correction, then removed to Spalding, where he remained until Trial Five Weeks; was after Trial taken to Lincoln Castle, where he remained One Month until removed to this Institution.

5. Stealing Four Silver Spoons.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in Prison before; but has been in the Lock-up House once at Coventry and once at Leamington Spa, One Night each Time, for Drunkenness.

8. When first committed to Skirbeck was placed in a Day-room by himself; here he also slept; was in this Solitude Two Days; was then placed with Two other Men, with whom he remained until removed to Spalding; the Conversation was coarse; himself the worst of the Three, as he was much given to swearing; but no Talk about Crime, nor did any thing pass, whilst there, which would have made Men worse, except as concerns swearing; in Spalding Gaol, he was at first Three Days in solitary Confinement, and afterwards was placed with Six others; these were afterwards reduced to Three; some of them were old Hands, and used to laugh at him for allowing himself to be taken; some Talk about Crime, but not much; one seemed to glory in what he had done; would be very injurious to a young Man; Religion was never talked or thought about; no Chaplain ever visited either Skirbeck or Spalding Gaols on the Week Days; no Chapel or Service at Skirbeck; at Spalding there was Service Three Times a Month, but a Sermon only once a Month; these Prisons were Schools for learning bad, if a Man wanted; Prison Allowance at Spalding was 8 lbs. of Bread, 4 lbs. of Potatoes, 1½ lb. of Oatmeal, 1 lb. of Beef, raw, per Week; no Man allowed to provide himself or to receive Provisions from his Friends; at Skirbeck 3*s.* per Week was allowed to each Prisoner to find himself, and he might add any Money to this, what he could afford; the Governor of the Prison provided what the Prisoners wanted, and charged it against their Allowance and any Money in his Hands; they were allowed to have 3 Half-pints of Ale daily, if they could afford it; Governor used to sell the Prisoners Bacon — this was in Skirbeck; there was gaming and smoking constantly; was removed to Lincoln Castle after Trial; was with Seven others; there was Work, Stocking-knitting; were allowed to talk together, and could get no Good; Plenty of Time for Contamination; better Order kept in Lincoln Castle; no Noise allowed, but the same Mischief could go on; no Silence was kept in Lincoln Castle; Silence would be a very good Thing; would prevent bad Things being instilled by the old Hands, which they are always after; Religion ridiculed in Lincoln Castle, very much so; is sure there is no Means of keeping Silence, except by Separation; does not believe they could keep Silence, even if an Officer was always close to them; sure they could not do it by Prisoners; any Way would lead to constant Jealousies and Broils.

9. Sooner be in a Cell by himself at any Time; harder Punishment to be with Companions, and yet be obliged to keep Silence, than to be quite alone; rather be alone, because he does not wish to be worse, and might be hardened on by others, and ridiculed out of that which he would do were he alone.

10. Could read and write when admitted.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Millbank.

Maidstone Gaol and Retribution Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Thirty-three Years of Age.

3. Received from the Retribution Hulk on the 21st of February 1834.

4. Was Five Weeks in Maidstone Gaol on a Charge of Assault; was out on his own Recognizance until the Man died; was then committed again to Maidstone Gaol and was Ten Days before Trial.

5. Manslaughter.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before, or before a Magistrate.

8. Was placed in the Common Ward for Prisoners before Trial with Thirty others; sometimes more, sometimes less; at Night each had a separate Cell; all kinds of Characters, Boys and Men, mingled together; Soldiers for Desertion, experienced London Thieves, and simple Countrymen, were together; all allowed to communicate together; no Attempt to keep Silence; no Officer in the Ward or Yard; One occasionally visited it; the Conduct and Conversation very bad indeed, not fitting for any one to hear, how to get Money under false Pretences, how to break into Houses, Highway Robbery, and every Crime that could be mentioned; they were instructing each other every Day, and the poor ignorant ones were glad to stand by to listen to it; every one must become worse, and some quite desperate, and never think of getting their Livelihood by Labour after; they call it their School, and say to each other, "I think you are pretty well educated now, will you belong to my School?" talked of the Pleasure of their Way of Life; great deal of Blasphemy and obscene Talk; constant quarrelling and wrangling; embittered one against the other; Religion quite out of the Question; used to curse and swear at the Trouble of going to Chapel every Morning; One Bible in the Ward, but it was often torn for waste Paper; has heard that mock Trials go on amongst them, more to get up a Defence and cheat the Law than for Pastime; Silence, if it could be kept, would stop it; is certain it never could, if such Characters are together; could not trust a Prisoner; they are nearly all alike; a Man's Life would be in Danger; would not trust himself; Prisoners feel the Injustice of One being put over others, and say, "It is all Favour to One who is only a Prisoner like them;" nothing but complete Separation could stop the Mischief; daily Gaol Allowance was 1 lb. of Brown Bread and 2 Pints of Oatmeal Gruel; Prisoners are allowed to keep themselves before Trial if they like; any kinds of Provisions they can afford to buy, and 2 Pints of Beer a Day, allowed; was Ten Days in the same Prison after Trial; no Work; Prisoners had to pass the Time as they could, walking in the Yard and talking; Seventeen were with him after Trial, all Transports; at first a little down-hearted by their Sentence, but soon got up their Spirits, and the same Mischief was at work again; talking how they should do if sent to New South Wales, where they should be happy enough, as happy as here; was on board the Retribution Hulk at Sheerness for Ten Weeks; if possible it was worse than Maidstone Gaol; Crime was the constant Subject of Talk, and that after this they would never go to work again; must go to thieving; intended to do it; wished to do it.

9. Would prefer *total* Silence, because certain nothing but bad comes of being together; is more happy in the Separation here than ever he was at either Maidstone or Hulks; would prefer the strictest Solitude that could be made, so would every thinking Man; desperate Characters would feel it a great Punishment; so would the greatest Part of Prisoners; he found in Maidstone Gaol a country Lad whom he had known before, who was then quite ignorant and simple; he was there for a small Offence, but had waited Five Months for Trial; he found him quite a desperate Character, and instructed in every kind of Crime.

10. Could read, write, and keep Accounts when he came here.

Usk and Monmouth Gaols and Discovery Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Thirty-eight Years of Age.

3. Received from the Discovery Hulk, Woolwich, on the 23d of February 1833.

4. Was nearly Two Months in Monmouth Gaol previous to Trial, and nearly a Month after Trial; was then removed to the Discovery Hulk at Woolwich, where he remained nearly Six Months previous to his coming here.

5. Burglariously breaking into a Dwelling-house, and stealing therefrom some Money and a Quantity of Goods.

6. Transportation for Life; commuted to Ten Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was a Month in Usk House of Correction for fighting with his Brother-in-law.

8. When committed to Monmouth Gaol for Trial was with about Fourteen others in a Yard and Day-room; at Night slept in Cells, either Three or One in each; when the Prison was full more were placed together; no Order or Regulation amongst the Prisoners before Trial; they were all together loose from the Time they got up until they went to Bed; nothing

367

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Millbank.

nothing but lounging about to kill Time, and talking about what they had done, and what they would do; every thing that was most rascally and blackguard; Blasphemy, obscene Talk, quite horrible, nothing but that; gambling for Provisions; various low Games continually going on; young and old mixed together; various Degrees of Character, from simple farming Men to those who had been convicted before; the best and the worst; the Effect of this must be total Ruination; don't think a Man would ever face Work after being with those old Depredators; nothing but contriving how they might rob and pilfer from some one or other; never heard Religion mentioned; there was a Bible in the Ward; never used; has seen mock Trials both for Pastime and to make up false Defences; no Officer in the Ward, nor did any one come near, except to bring the Meals, unless they were called for; daily Gaol Allowance was 2 lbs. of Bread, 1 lb. of Potatoes, and about 1 Quart of Oatmeal Gruel; no Beer, or Spirits, or Tobacco allowed; those who could afford it might purchase any Provisions before Trial; the being in Usk House of Correction for a Month was the Cause of his Downfall; Fourteen or Sixteen were there together; some of the worst Kind; he only for a Month, for a Family Broil; became there acquainted with a desperate Character who had before been guilty of Housebreaking; when they were liberated, this Man met him shortly after by Accident; he had already committed another Act of Housebreaking, but unknown to Prisoner; he asked him into a Public House, and was taken up and convicted for being found in company with the Man who had done the Depredation; there was Service on the Sabbath Day both in Usk and Monmouth Prisons, but no Religious Instruction during the Week; never saw a Chaplain on a Week Day; if all were kept silent, much Mischief would be prevented, but it could never be managed without being kept separate; never do it by means of Prisoners; never submit to a Fellow Prisoner; nothing but Jealousies and quarrelling would follow; never could depend upon them; always hang together; Favours shown to one over the others do all Kinds of Mischief; would lead to Mutiny; nothing but complete Separation could prevent Contamination; Six Months on board the Hulks; that even worse if possible; if such an Expression might be made use of, that is Hell upon Earth.

9. Would prefer total Silence to mixing with the Prison Set; would rather serve Two Years under such a System as is in force here than One at Monmouth or in the Hulks, because there is Peace and Comfort both for Body and Soul; having gone through what he has in other Prisons, knows the Advantages of such Restraints as are put upon bad Men, and the Comforts arising from Quiet, and therefore would wish for Silence and Separation; bad Men would not like it, especially at first.

10. Could read, write, and keep Accounts before he came here.

Montgomery Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Fifty-eight Years of Age.
3. Received from Montgomery Goal on the 1st of June 1832.
4. Two Months.
5. Larceny, stealing about Eighty Yards of Flannel.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was never in Prison before.
8. When committed to Montgomery Prison was placed with Eight others in a Yard and Day-room; at Night slept Two in a Cell; Two of the Eight were Convicts under Sentences of One and Two Years Imprisonment; the other Six were awaiting their Trial; all very decent tidy Men; no swearing; no bad Talk; there were Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer Books provided; no Work; and no Stop put upon any Talk, but did not hear any thing but good whilst there; Religion was not scoffed at; Prayers and Hymn every Morning and Evening amongst the Prisoners; went to Chapel once every Sunday; Chaplain never visited in the Week; One of the Prisoners was a wild Lad, and given to swear, but others were older and steadier, and kept him under, and the Governor was very good and strict; Prison Allowance was 1 lb. of White Bread per Day, and nothing else; Prisoners allowed to have any Provisions in from their Friends, but no Drink of any Kind; those who had Money could purchase of the Governor, and when he had not what was wanted, he sent a Servant to the Town; Turnkey always with the Prisoners; he was charged to keep Order; no Play allowed.

9. If Characters were good, would rather be in Company; but if bad, would rather be by himself and in total Silence; rather be as here; could think good then; but if with empty Men, might be drawn their Way.

10. Could read a little in Welsh when admitted; could not write.

Nairn Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Forty-three Years of Age.
3. Received from Nairn Gaol on the 19th of June 1832.
4. Four Months, and Six Weeks after Trial.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

5. Horse-stealing.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any other Prison.

8. Is not aware of the Conversation and Conduct of Prisoners where Silence is not maintained, as there was no other Prisoner in the Gaol but himself all the Time; for Two or Three Days before Trial Eighteen were brought into the Gaol, but they were mostly thinking of their Trials, and talked of little else; most of them wished they might be sent Abroad; if such a Number had been together during the whole Time he was in Nairn, Silence would have been better; thinks it could not be kept where any Numbers were together; Gaol Allowance was Sixpence a Day; Gaoler drew the Money and supplied the Prisoners with what was necessary; if a Prisoner could afford it, he was allowed Beer or Porter, but no Spirits; after Trial every thing was just the same.

9. Would prefer being by himself and in total Silence, because it is hard to find such Companions as he would wish.

10. Could read and write when admitted into this Institution.

Nottingham Gaol and Fortitude Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-two Years of Age.

3. Received from the Fortitude Hulk on the 26th of September 1834.

4. Was Two Months in the Town Prison of Nottingham, and Three Weeks after Trial in the same Place; then removed to the Fortitude Hulk at Chatham, where he remained about Seven Weeks, when he was removed to this Institution.

5. Embezzling 77*l.*, the Property of his Employer.

6. Fourteen Years Transportation; commuted to Seven Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before.

8. When first committed to Nottingham Prison was placed in a Yard and Day-room with about Ten others; these, before Trial, increased to about Thirty; at Night slept Two and Three in a Cell; there was uninterrupted Communication all the Day through; some were of the lowest possible Class; some were noted Characters as Housebreakers, and many were Boys for petty Offences; the Conduct and Conversation such as might have been expected from such Characters; a great deal of swearing and indecent Talk, also as what had been perpetrated, and what might be done; it was quite a School for teaching the readiest Mode of thieving; there was a Bible and Prayer Book in the Place, but sedom looked into; Religion never thought of; their Thoughts mostly run upon gaming; Pitch and Toss was permitted; has seen Thirty Shillings lost in an Hour; Friends were allowed to leave Money; no Officer in the Yard; no Attempt to restrain any thing, but a great Noise; has seen mock Trials, perhaps for Pastime, more likely to plan a Defence; the most probable Effect of this would be, that a Man would take to an idle Life after; if disposed or tempted to return to a Course of Crime, would, in consequence of what he heard and saw before Trial, be better qualified to commit Depredations and to escape Detection; it was sad to see with what Eagerness the Lads used to listen to the Tales and Instructions of the old Hands; one Lad, who was acquitted, actually laid down in the Yard and cried, because he was not going away with the rest; thinks that Separation would stop this Mischief; Silence would also stop it; can't think how it could be done if many were together; when Men have nothing to do all Day, they will be talking if in Company; there might be an odd one here and there who would try to do his Duty if employed as a Monitor, but they are very scarce; would be subject to the Ill-will of all the rest; Separation is the only Means of preventing the Mischief now done in Prisons; daily Prison Allowance 2 lbs. of White Bread, and 1 Pint of Milk; Prisoners Friends allowed to send in any Provisions; a Man who had Money might provide himself; one of the Under Turnkeys went out to Market to buy what was wanted; Half a Pint of Ale allowed daily to those who could pay for it, but one who had Money, sending in the Name of those who had not, could get any Quantity almost, and has in consequence seen several get tipsy in the Prison; Tobacco and smoking was allowed; has seen them smoking and drinking and singing in the Day-room; there was a Man under the Charge of Murder; he asked to be removed to a Place by himself, as he could not bear the Conversation he heard in the Yard and Day-room; this Man was convicted and executed, and buried within the Precints of the Prison; all the Convicts assisted in digging his Grave; very little Effect produced by this; a few Hours after he was buried Things went on as usual; was on board the Fortitude Hulk Seven Weeks; Conversation much the same; quite as bad as in Nottingham Gaol; he must contract there Habits of Idleness and Wickedness of all Sorts, and would never hold up his Head again as an honest Man, except in very few Instances; they are the Exceptions.

9. Would prefer total Silence, or total Separation even, to mingling with such Characters; if Books were provided, and Employment, total Separation would be a less Punishment than total Silence in Company; always under Temptation in the latter Case; would prefer Separation, because can then avoid the Temptation of being led into the same Ways that they have followed.

10. Has

10. Has been well educated; could read, write, and keep Accounts when he came to this Institution.

Norwich and Swaffham Gaols.

1. ——— ———
2. Eighteen Years of Age.
3. Received from Norwich Gaol on the 27th of November 1834.
4. Five Weeks in Swaffham Bridewell; after Trial was removed to Norwich Castle.
5. Stealing Monies, &c.
6. Seven Years Transportation, commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Never in Prison before; Father was transported Seven Years ago for Sheep-stealing.
8. When placed in Swaffham Bridewell was in a Cell with Two others, in which they continued both Day and Night, except for Half an Hour Morning and Evening, when they walked in the Yard with the other Prisoners for Trial; there were Eleven of them, Men and Boys; Two of them had been convicted before; at these Times all were permitted to talk together; heard much swearing, and Talk about bad Women, and about Crime; one Man, named ——— ——— told him if he got off now, how he might steal a Sheep, and if transported, he would be free to go where he liked in the Country, and would be well off there; would learn much Mischief in Swaffham; talk about what you liked; used to go to Chapel every Morning for Prayers; Men laughed at that when they got into the Yard; daily Prison Allowance was 1½lb. of White Bread; no Provisions allowed to be sent in by Friends; no Beer allowed; those who could afford it might buy a Pennyworth of Milk every Morning, and some Vegetables on a Saturday, but nothing else. When removed to Norwich Castle was placed in No. 2. Ward, with Twenty others; used to work on the Tread-wheel; when off, all the Men were together in the Day-room; at Night slept Three in a Cell; not so much Mischief in Norwich as in Swaffham, but plenty of Opportunity of learning what was bad; Prison Allowance at Norwich 2½lb. of White Bread and 1 Pint of Milk daily, and ½lb. of Cheese and 2 Onions per Week.
9. Should like to have Company, and to talk to one another; but if the Company was bad, it would be better to be silent or alone.
10. Cannot read or write.

Salisbury Gaol and Leviathan Hulk.

1. ——— ———
2. Twenty-two Years of Age.
3. Received from the Leviathan Hulk on the 1st of May 1833.
4. Five Weeks in Salisbury Prison before Trial, Two after Trial, and Six Weeks on board the Leviathan Hulk at Portsmouth.
5. Stealing 5 Crown Pieces.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was never in Prison before; never charged with any Offence.
8. When committed to Salisbury Prison was placed amongst the rest of the Prisoners for Trial; at first there were about Fifteen; these increased before Trial to about Thirty; slept One or Three in a Cell; there was swearing, and nothing that was calculated to do good; a Man would be likely to be made worse; there was Ball-playing and sometimes gambling; no Officer in the Yard, or ever there, except to lock and unlock, Morning and Evening; heard very little about Religion; many would corrupt others; Silence would be best, but it would be a great Punishment; quite impossible to keep Silence except by keeping them locked up in different Cells; if Men were together, and yet forbidden to speak, it would lead to constant Reports and constant Punishments; less Punishment to be quite separate; rather doubts whether any Prisoner would be true to his Trust if set over others; it is not natural to expect it; would be a very disagreeable Berth. Prison daily Allowance was 1½lb. of White Bread, and 1 Quart of Soup on Sundays; but Prisoners were allowed to purchase any Provisions, or to receive them from their Friends; no Beer allowed in the Prison. Was Six Weeks on board the Hulks at Portsmouth; every thing dreadful there; whatever little Remains of Innocence or Honesty a Man might have, sure to be lost there; the longer a Man remains there the worse he becomes; would be a ruined Man for ever, and never able to do a hard Day's Work.
9. If permitted to be separated altogether would choose that rather than to mix in unrestrained Communication with other Prisoners; but if placed in Company, would dread total Silence, because it would be a double Restraint altogether; rather be alone, because not exposed to so many Temptations.
10. Could read and write and keep Accounts when he came to this Institution.

Northampton Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Forty Years of Age.
3. Received from Northampton Gaol on the 31st of May 1834.

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

4. Eight Days in Northampton Gaol before Trial, and nearly Three Months after.
5. Forgery.
6. To be confined Two Years in the Penitentiary, and afterwards transported for Life.
7. Was never in Prison before.
8. When committed to Northampton Prison was placed in No. 4. Yard, with Seventeen or Eighteen Prisoners, all awaiting Trial; at Night they slept Three in a Cell; most of them very indifferent Characters; some of them had been previously convicted; Conduct and Conversation very bad indeed; there was much swearing and lying; very indecent Talk; many were telling what they had done, and the ignorant might have been instructed in every Kind of Crime; there was much low gaming, though not allowed; Religion was made a Ridicule of; no Officer present in the Yard, seldom visited it, and then not to keep any Order, only to suppress any Uproar; but in the Day-room there was constant Noise; there were many mock Trials, but more for Sport and Ridicule than for any thing else; Prison Allowance 1½ lb. of Brown Bread and One Quart of Soup daily; Prisoners allowed to provide for themselves both before and after Trial; any Provisions were allowed, but no Spirits or Beer; after Trial Things went on just the same; no Work, nothing to fill up the Time, so that Prisoners sought to pass it away in Conversation, gaming, and any way they could; Money was allowed amongst them both before and after Trial; this led to much gaming and constant Quarrels and fighting; nothing worse can be imagined than such a Place; People were getting daily worse; Work and Silence would prevent much of this Mischief, but very difficult to keep it where so many are together; nothing but Separation would stop the Evil.
9. Would prefer total Silence or Separation; Work also would be a great Blessing; likes it best because it is impossible to employ yourself in any kind of way, or to be still and quiet with such a Set.
10. Could read and write and keep Accounts; had a good Education under ——————.

South Hill Prison, Nottinghamshire, and Ganymede.

1. ——————
2. Twenty-two Years of Age.
3. Received from the Ganymede Hulk on the 24th of January 1834.
4. Two Months in South Hill House of Correction.
5. Stealing Three Quarters of Wheat and Seven Sack Bags.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Never in any Prison before, or before any Magistrate.
8. Was placed in South Hill Prison, with Fifteen or Sixteen more, in a Yard and Day-room; at Night every Man has a separate Cell; many bad Characters together; great deal of cursing and swearing, and bad Talk; learnt more Mischief there than ever he did in his Life; Religion never talked about except to be laughed at; some gaming, but not much; no Books in the Ward; no Chaplain visited the Prison; short Prayers every Morning, and twice on the Sunday; seldom any Sermon; has many Times heard cursing at the Trouble of going to the daily Prayers, though there was nothing to do all Day long; no Officer in the Yard; one now and then visited to see that all were safe; Prison Allowance 1¾ lbs. White Bread, 1 Pint of Milk, and 2 Pints of Oatmeal Gruel daily; no Prisoners allowed to keep themselves, or any thing to be sent in; no Beer, no Spirits, or Tobacco; some Tobacco found its Way in; might stop all this if kept separate as we are here; or if an Officer was with them always to keep them quiet, that might do somewhat; no very easy Matter to keep Fifteen or Sixteen Men silent all Day, when they have nothing to do.
9. Had rather a great deal be silent and separate; deal more comfortable to one's self than with all that blackguarding.
10. Could not read or write when admitted here.

Newport, Isle of Wight, Gaol, and York Hulk, Portsmouth.

1. ——————
2. Twenty-one Years of Age.
3. Received from the York Hulk on the 10th Day of May 1834.
4. Five Weeks in Newport Prison before Trial, Two Weeks after Trial, and One Week on board the York Hulk; then removed to this Institution.
5. Stealing Wearing Apparel from his Master.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was One Night in Newport on Suspicion of robbing a Grocer's Store, and One Night for a drunken Riot on the 5th of November.
8. When committed to Newport Prison was placed in a Ward and Day-room with Fourteen others, some awaiting their Trials, and some serving their Time; the Talk was very bad; some very bad Characters; little Children Eight or Ten Years old as bad as the rest; bad enough to corrupt any body; told of what they had done; Children were flogged, seemed

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

to do them good; never heard Religion laughed at; some of the Men would sometimes try to teach the Boys their Books, but they were very saucy; had Bibles and Prayer Books provided; attended Chapel twice of a Sunday; no Sermon; no Officer to keep Order; one of the old Hands appointed Wardsman; he could keep down the Children, but could do nothing with the older ones; more likely to become worse by being in such a Place; Prison Allowance 1½ lb. of White Bread daily, and 6 oz. of Meat and 1 lb. of Potatoes on Sundays; if Prisoners could afford it might have any thing in, and 1 Pint of Ale both before and after Trial; after Trial was put back into the same Place; was One Week on board the York Hulk; better Order there; Officers kept a better Look-out.

9. If could have decent Companions would prefer to talk, but if they were bad, to be kept silent, or by himself, because has seen more through it, and knows it does no good to be together with bad ones; has been wild enough; would wish to be made steadier, which would not be likely with bad Characters.

10. Could not read or write when admitted here.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Eleven Years of Age.

3. Received from Newcastle-upon-Tyne Gaol on the 27th of March 1835.

4. One Month in Newcastle Gaol before Trial.

5. Larceny.

6. To be imprisoned in the Penitentiary for Two Years; at the Expiration of such Imprisonment to be transported for Life.

7. Was in Newcastle Gaol once before for Five Days under a Charge of stealing Shoes; was acquitted.

8. When committed to Newcastle Gaol was placed with Nine others; Eight of them like himself were awaiting their Trial; and One had been convicted and sentenced to Transportation, and was mixed with the untried Prisoners; at Night each had a separate Cell; were all together, and had no Work; no Attempt to keep Silence; no Officer in the Yard; one used to come sometimes when there was a Noise; there was swearing and bad Talk; likely to be made worse by a Month's Confinement together; some Talk of what they had done; and has heard Instruction in Crime; there were Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer Books in the Ward, but Religion was laughed at; there was gaming for Money; Prison Allowance, 1 lb. of Bread, 1 Pint of Soup, 2 Pints of Oatmeal Gruel, and Milk, daily; those who could afford it were allowed to keep themselves, but that was taken off before he came away from Newcastle.

9. Would wish to be kept separate and silent, better than to be where there was Noise and fighting.

10. Could not read or write when he came here.

Oxford Gaol and Justitia Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-eight Years of Age.

3. Received from the Justitia Hulk, Woolwich, on the 30th of May 1833.

4. Three Weeks in Oxford Gaol before Trial, Eleven Days after Trial, and Eleven Weeks on board the Justitia.

5. Poaching in the Night on the Lands of ———.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in his Life in any Prison before, or before a Magistrate.

8. When committed to Oxford Gaol was placed in a Yard and Day-room with Eight or Nine others, all awaiting their Trials; these increased before Trial; at Night each had a separate Cell, until the Prison became too full to allow that Separation, then they slept in a Part of the Prison called the Round-rooms, Fourteen or Fifteen together; there were very different Characters associated together, some very bad, some quiet; there was cursing and swearing and singing going on from Morning to Night, and almost all Night too; bad Talk, and trying one another to see how they could stand before the Judge, and whether they should get clear or not; frequent Quarrellings and fighting; no Officer in the Yard, or any Attempt to keep Order, except to suppress any violent Uproar; there was much gambling; Money was allowed amongst them to any Amount they could get it; heard very little about Religion; a few were disposed to read their Bibles, but were much put upon, and Religion often scoffed at; went to the Chapel once on the Sunday; seldom any Sermon, and sometimes on the Week Days for short Prayers; what he saw was undoubtedly calculated to make a Man worse; so many Discourses about Things which ought not to be heard, and that always going on more or less; no Occupation, nothing to do but pass the Time as best suited their Fancy; Prison Allowance was 1½ lb. of White Bread, 2 Ounces of Cheese, and about 1½ Quart of Oatmeal Gruel daily, and ½ lb. of Beef and a Quart of Broth

No. 3
Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Millbank.

Broth on Sundays; Prisoners who could afford it were allowed to have in any thing but Spirits; 2 Pints of Ale was the nominal Allowance, but in fact any Quantity of Beer might be had daily, and has frequently seen Men tipsy; was himself tipsy Two or Three Times; after Trial was put into a Yard called Botany, with Sixteen or Seventeen others, all sentenced to Transportation; general State of the Men pretty much the same, though some were much cast down at their Sentences, but still every thing that was bad was going on around them, and one trying to bring the other into the same Way; Men who could afford it were still allowed to have any thing they liked; Beer still allowed, and Tobacco, and smoking; there were Three or Four Gentlemen in the same Yard with them, who were in Prison under short Sentences for a Riot; they used to give the Transports Beer, and Money, and Tobacco for singing to them; the Governor was aware of this, and permitted it; Governor came round with them on One Occasion when the Tobacco was distributed by the Gentlemen amongst the Prisoners; these Gentlemen did a deal of Mischief, paying the Men to sing improper Songs and tell improper Tales, and to make a Noise and Uproar; Prisoners used to do what they liked; One of the Turnkeys kept a Shop, and used to supply the Prisoners with whatever they could afford to buy; several of the Prisoners were tipsy after Trial, and that frequently; the Scenes which he has witnessed were such as he could not have imagined, and yet has himself been a wild young Man; Was on board the Justitia Hulk Eleven Weeks, and has no Hesitation in saying, it was worse than even the worst Part of Oxford Prison, and will not believe that a Man who goes through the Hulks will ever be a Man again, or get his Living by hard Work; all Kinds of Roguery going on and being taught; has heard many say they never meant to do any thing but thieve; Separation would stop all this, and nothing else could; Silence would do good, but that is a difficult Matter; does not believe it could ever be maintained amongst Prisoners if they are together; not by Prisoners certainly; none to be depended on; they would never dare do their Duty.

9. Would rather be by himself; total Silence, where Numbers are together, would be a constant Punishment; always have something in the Mind, and yet not allowed to utter it; it would lead to constant Reports and Punishments; when a Man is by himself he can give his Mind to other Things which are more profitable to him; in such Company that is impossible.

10. Could read and write when he came here.

Preston Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Thirty-five Years of Age.
3. Received from Preston Gaol on the 19th of January 1833.
4. Three Weeks in Preston Gaol before Trial; Three Weeks after.
5. Stealing at ——— One Top Coat, One Body Coat, Two Waistcoats, Two Pairs of Trowsers, Three Pairs of Stockings, One Silver Watch, and other Articles, the Property of ———
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was One Month in Manchester New Bailey about Four Years ago.
8. When committed to Preston Gaol was in a Yard and Day-room with about Twenty-five others, all for Trial; at Night slept Two in a Cell; all Descriptions of Men together; some who had been previously convicted, and who had been travelling the Country from Fair to Fair, getting their Livings by Roguery, were giving an Insight to others into every thing, and the Conversation one among another was how Men might get on by thieving, and so on, instead of by fair honest Living; ignorant ones glad to give heed to what the knowing ones could tell them; a Man sure to become worse before he came out, could not be otherwise; some were disposed to Religion, and would have been glad to hear Talk of such Things, but the others would not permit it, and if they had persevered they would have been knocked about sadly; no Officer in the Ward to keep Order, only the Prisoners by themselves to do just what they had a Mind to. When in Manchester New Bailey for the Month learnt much that was dishonest; was a wicked Man before by neglecting his God and his Soul, but knew nothing of Roguery, but after he came away from there knew more far away, more to his Sorrow; his Downfall much owing to that One Month; thinks that Transportation or Confinement in Solitude for Years would be better for a Man, and far less Punishment, than One Year's Imprisonment in such Places as Manchester Bailey and Preston Gaol. Prison Allowance, 1½ lb. of Brown Bread, 3 Pints of Oatmeal Gruel daily, Two Meat Dinners weekly, and other Days Soup or a small Quantity of Cheese, and 1 lb. of Potatoes; nothing allowed to be purchased, and Friends might not send in any thing, except a little extra Bread and Cheese once a Week; no Beer or any Liquors, or Tobacco, allowed.
9. My Mind would be to go into solitary Confinement, or be kept silent, or any thing rather than be with such Goings-on; was not always of that Way of thinking; has more Experience now.
10. Could neither read or write when admitted; can now do both.

Perth

373

No. 3.
Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

Perth Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Thirty-three Years of Age.
3. Received from Perth Gaol on the 14th May 1832.
4. Was Seven Weeks in Perth Gaol before Trial, and One Month after.
5. Forgery.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was never in any Prison before.
8. Was placed with about Twenty-two other Prisoners in a Yard and Day-room; by Night slept Two and Two in small Cells; during a great Part of the Day all were locked up together in the Day-room, no Officer being present, or any Attempt to keep any Order; were let out to walk in the Yard for about Six Hours each Day, during which Time an Officer was always present, but he did not attempt to restrain Conversation; was there to prevent fighting or Uproar, or any Attempt at Escape; of these Twenty-two, some were awaiting Trial, and some had been tried and sentenced, some were very bad Characters; just every thing that was bad was going on, particularly when locked up in the Day-room, cursing and swearing, and bad Language; Conversation constantly turned upon Roguery, picking Pockets, and every thing connected with Crime; Religion never spoken of, except to be laughed at; there were Bibles and other good Books provided, but never used; if any one had attempted to use a Book he would have got his Head broke; Coals, or any thing else that could have been laid hold on, would have been thrown at him; Cards and low gambling constantly going on; whatever Money a Prisoner could get, he was allowed to have; Gaol Allowance was about Fourpenny-worth of Bread daily, and nothing else; Prisoners who could afford it were allowed all Kinds of Provisions, and as much Porter and Ale as they liked or could afford to send for; after Trial there was no Change, still all kept together, and allowed Porter, Ale, Tobacco, smoking, and any Kinds of Provisions; there was no Employment either before or after Trial, nothing at all to do but to kill Time; the Effect of all this was to deprave; heard and saw Things he never knew of or suspected; it is just the Place to learn them to do Mischief; thinks that few would go back to an honest Course of Life; to be locked up separately the only Cure, and it would be a Blessing; Silence would do much Good, but does not think that any System of Discipline could keep Silence amongst Twenty Men, who were all Day together, and have nothing to do; Punishment without Mercy even would have little Effect; nothing but being locked up separate.
9. Would prefer Separation, Silence, or any thing else that would keep him from such Companions; would give the World, if he had it, rather than undergo such another Seven Weeks.
10. Has been well educated and brought up.

Stafford Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Twenty-four Years of Age.
3. Received from Stafford Gaol on the 31st March 1834.
4. Was Fourteen Days in Stafford Gaol before Trial, and Three Months after Trial.
5. Stealing Wheat.
6. Seven Years Transportation, commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was never in any Prison or before any Magistrate in his Life before.
8. Was placed with about 30 more, all awaiting Trial; there was a Yard and a Day-room; by Night were Three in a Cell; no Officer in the Yard, or any Attempt to keep any Order; there were Two Yards in Stafford Prison for Prisoners for Trial at Sessions; and One for Trial at the Assizes; in One the best Characters were put, and the worst in the other; was with the best, but still very wild Characters amongst them; was a great deal of cursing and swearing, and talking about what they had done, and how they would go on again if they got clear; heard old Hands tell the young ones of their great Feats, and how they might do the same; the ignorant ones were laughed at for not knowing how to go about it; and One who had been in Prison several Times, and always got quit, was boasting how he could defy the Law, and would do it; Religion was never brought in question; went to Chapel for short Prayers twice a Week, and once on a Sunday; produced no good Effect; could not with such a Set; Prison Allowance was 1½ lb. of Brown Bread daily, and nothing else; were allowed to purchase any thing they could afford before Trial, but no Beer or Tobacco; after Trial, was placed with about Thirty other Transports; were all Two Months without any Work; the last Month were put upon the Wheel; same bad Talk was going on; don't think the Sentence took any Effect upon some of them; is quite satisfied from what he saw, that in such a Place, the best would shortly become nearly as bad as the worst; there is not a Doubt of it; not to be allowed to discourse with one another, and to be kept very strict, would prevent much Mischief; but some are so daring that nothing would keep them really quiet; not any Officer could do it; certainly no Pri-

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

soner; would be fighting and Mutiny, and constant Punishment; kept locked up separate the only safe Way; after Trial nothing but the Gaol Allowance permitted.

9. Would himself prefer to be in total Silence, or separate; would wish to be in Peace and quiet; often did draw himself quite away from them; couldn't bear it.

10. Could read, write, and keep Accounts, when he came here.

Clerkenwell Prison and Shrewsbury Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-five Years of Age.

3. Received from Shrewsbury Gaol on the 29th of March 1835.

4. Was Six Days in Clerkenwell Prison; was then sent down to Shrewsbury Gaol; was Six Weeks there before Trial, and Nine Days after Trial.

5. Manslaughter.

6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was Four Months in solitary Confinement in the Military Prison at Pimlico.

8. When in Clerkenwell Prison, was placed in the Felons Yard with between Twenty and Thirty others, all awaiting their Trials; at Night the whole slept in Two Rooms; nothing could exceed the blackguard Conduct that was going on; cursing, swearing, and indecent Conservation; Crime was also a frequent Subject of Talk; there was gaming, and drinking, and smoking, and singing, both by Night and Day; any Quantity of Provisions and Beer, which the Prisoners could afford to buy, was permitted; the Warder, who was a convicted Prisoner, sold to the Prisoners Tobacco, Coffee, Butter, and a Variety of other little Things; the Contamination of the Place dreadful; knew bad enough before, but it showed him a great deal worse; when removed to Shrewsbury, was placed in the big Assize Court, which is a Yard and Day-room, and in which there were about Seventeen or Eighteen or more Prisoners, all awaiting Trial; at Night slept either One or Three in a Cell; most of them Countrymen; at Times there was very rough Talk, and though there was some pains to keep Order, yet a Man would be sure to get worse in such a Place; there was a Monitor appointed from amongst the Prisoners to keep Order, who had Sixpence a Week for doing so; he was to prevent fighting, gaming, swearing, and any great Noise; and he was to report to the Turnkey every Breach of the Regulations, but he did not do it; he did not dare to do it; they told him they would hammer him if he did, and believes they would have put their Threat into execution; he was not a Bit better than the rest; to the full as much disposed to Mischief as any other; believes that Prisoners are never to be trusted; all those he has ever seen put over others, have always acted with a view to their own Benefit, not to be true to their Employers, or to keep Order; there was a great Scoff at Religion, especially during the daily Prayers, and Divine Service on the Sundays; Prison Allowance, 1 lb. of Bread and 1 Quart of Oatmeal Gruel daily, and Three Days 1 lb. of Potatoes for Dinner, the Four other Days 1 Pint of Soup and 1 oz. of Meat; no extra Provisions allowed to be brought in, either before or after Trial; there was Work both before and after Trial; Pin-heading before, and working at a Wheel (not a Tread-wheel) after Trial.

9. Would prefer total Silence or Separation to mixing indiscriminately with the other Prisoners; would sooner be Seven Years in the Penitentiary than Two Years in Shrewsbury; consults his own Comfort every Way in this Choice; Silence would be a great Punishment to many, but would cause them to be much better, instead of as they are now, made a great deal worse, in Prisons where they are mixed together; was in Prison under the serious Charge of Murder, and his Life was in great Danger; it was impossible to give his Mind to serious Subjects; felt it quite horrible to be exposed to such Scenes; bad at any Time, but at that Time more than he could bear.

10. Could read and write when admitted.

Worcester Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-five Years of Age.

3. Received from Worcester Gaol on the 28th of April 1833.

4. About Five Weeks in Worcester County Gaol before Trial, about Seven Weeks after Trial.

5. House-breaking, and stealing Money and Wearing Apparel.

6. Fourteen Years Transportation, commuted to Seven Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before.

8. When put into the Assize Yard, with about Twenty-five other Prisoners, all for Trial; at Night slept either One or Three in a Cell; Variety of Characters amongst them, some very bad, some much the contrary; were allowed to talk together as much as they liked; continually talking about what they had done; an ignorant Man must get an Insight into Crime, though at first he might not understand it; very little Talk about Religion, more against

it

375

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

it than for it; don't think a Man would have been troubled if he had been disposed to read his Bible and give his Mind to Religion; Bibles and other good Books were provided; Prayers in Chapel twice a Week, and twice a Day on the Sunday; gaming for Money was frequently practised; there was a Wardsman and a Monitor to the Yard, both Prisoners; they were allowed extra Provisions, a Dinner every Day and Meat Three Times a Week for their Trouble; they were appointed to keep Order, to prevent gaming and swearing, or bad Talk, and the Monitor to see that the Men read their Books at the appointed Time; neither did their Duty, they did not stop gaming and other bad Things, and would not report the Men; thinks there are a few who would do their Duty, but they would be made very uncomfortable; Monitor used to write the Prisoners Letters, and got a good deal by that, and did not report Men, because then they would not have employed or paid him; Prison Allowance was 1¾lb. of White Bread and 1 Quart of Oatmeal Gruel daily; those who could afford it might buy any thing but Spirits; 2 Quarts of mixed Beer were allowed, One Morning and One Evening, but those who had Money could get more; One of the Turnkeys Wives came round every Day with a Basket, and the Prisoners bought of her; no Work before Trial, nothing to fill up Time, just to amuse themselves as they liked, walking about or sitting by the Fire, talking of what they had done and telling Tales; no Officer in the Yard; after Trial every Man placed separate until the Judges left the Town; were then shifted into the Sessions Yard, Thirteen were together by Day, and slept Three in a Cell by Night; worked on the Wheel all Day; no talking allowed, but could whisper; at Meal-times were in the Day-room, and might then talk, but not loud; still plenty of Opportunity to learn Mischief, but Discourse was more serious after Trial; after Trial Gaol Allowance was 1¾lb. of Bread and 1 Quart of Gruel daily, and Three Days per Week ½lb. of Meat and ½lb. of Potatoes, and Two Days per Week 1 Quart of Pea Soup, and other Day 1lb. of Suet Pudding; no extra Provisions or Beer allowed after Trial.

9. Would prefer total Silence or Separation; finds it much to his own Good, and is sure all would do the same; Separation much better than Silence where a Number are together; would lead to many Punishments and constant bad Feeling.

10. Has had a good Education.

Clerkenwell Prison and Springfield Gaol.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty-nine Years of Age.

3. Received from Springfield Gaol on the 3d of June 1834.

4. Was One Week before Trial, Part of the Time in Clerkenwell, and Part in Springfield; was there Three Months after Trial.

5. Burglary.

6. Death, commuted to Transportation for Life, and subsequently to Seven Years; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was never in any Prison before.

8. With respect to Clerkenwell there were from 40 to 50 together; a Prisoner was appointed Wardsman, with Authority to keep Order; he would prevent gaming and fighting, but as to any thing else he took no Notice of it; there was gaming out of his Sight; both by Day and Night there was every Description of Wickedness that the Tongue could utter; those who are only in on Suspicion, remanded for further Examination, (and many of whom are comparatively innocent,) get acquainted with those who have been in every Prison in London, and are the most knowing and confirmed Reprobates, and from them they learn the best Modes of picking Locks, breaking into Houses, and every other Species of Depredation; Prison Allowance was 1½ lb. of Bread and 1 Pint of Gruel daily, and Soup once a Week, but those who could afford it might have what they liked, except Spirits; Beer was allowed to any Quantity; the worst Scenes were in the Night Cells, where from 20 to 30 slept; there was singing, and smoking, and drinking, Indecency in Language too bad to be described, and those who could excel the others in this respect were most applauded. At Springfield had but short Experience before Trial, but from the little he saw is satisfied the State of that Prison is no better, old Offenders are mixed with the younger ones, and it is quite a School for every Kind of Crime; after Trial had Three Months Experience of the Prison; no Classification; Men who had small Fines and short Sentences were with the Transports; those who were going to be sent out of the Country told those who were shortly going to their Liberty where they knew there was Money or Property to be got, and how the Robbery might be committed, described the Premises, the best Time for committing the Robbery, and how the Plunder might most safely be got rid of; Men who are liberated from such a Place, who have been there perhaps for a Month or Two for some petty Offence, almost always leave it in such a State that it is most probable they will become as bad as the worst they have left behind; Information was given where bad Money could be purchased, and those who had followed that Trade advised others to go about the Country passing bad Money, as the safest Way of getting a good Living without Labour; the grand Object is to live a Life of Idleness and Sensuality; and they do not care what Crime they commit, or what Risk they run, to obtain Money to indulge their Fancy; the Happiness of their Mode of Life was vaunted, and the honest Course of Life was run down as dull, and a Man who pretended to be steady was

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

the Butt and Ridicule of the Place; a Prisoner was appointed Yardsman; he was as bad as the rest; he was detected more than once in stealing Provisions and Paper, so that he was in their Power, and instead of keeping Order was encouraging Mischief; this Yardsman received the Keys from the Officer the first Thing in the Morning, and unlocked the Prisoners; each Officer had one Prisoner whom he called his Man, who did much of his Duty; the Officer brought the Bread in the Morning, and saw that distributed, but he seldom visited the Yard again before Night, and the Officers Men did every thing else; they settled those who were to go on the Wheel; they had the Means of getting Bread and Meat, which they sold to such Prisoners as could get Money in, which was not unfrequently the Case; this Bread and Meat must have been purloined from the Prison Provisions; these Officers Men had the Liberty of going all about the Prison; they could have access to the Smugglers Yard, and from them they obtained Tobacco; this they also sold to the Prisoners; Prison Allowance was 1¾ lb. of coarse Bread, 2 ozs. of Cheese, 1 Pint of Oatmeal Gruel, and 1 Quart of Small Beer; nothing extra was allowed to be introduced; Religion was quite out of the Question, and those who were disposed to follow it were constantly annoyed; the Prayers were parodied, and in this respect, as in others, the Conduct was generally disgraceful; there were short Prayers in Chapel every Morning, and School One Hour each Day, and Service twice each Sunday.

9. Would prefer total Silence, because if allowed to talk and communicate would be sure to hear more Harm than Good, and would soon fall into the Ways of those around; is of this Mind now, but would not have thought so when in Springfield; Silence cannot be kept, is sure; Men would not attend to a Fellow Prisoner; Separation altogether the best; certainly the best for Reform, and, all Things considered, for Comfort also; total Silence and Separation nearly equal as to Punishment.

10. Could read and write well, and keep Accounts, when received here.

Warwick Gaol.

1. ——— ———
2. Twenty Years of Age.
3. Received from Warwick Gaol on the 11th of September 1834.
4. Was a Fortnight in Warwick Gaol before Trial, and Seven Weeks after.
5. Breaking open a Shop and stealing Five Files and a Hammer.
6. Seven Years Transportation; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.
7. Was never in any Prison before.
8. When committed to Warwick Gaol was placed in the Felons Yard with as many as Eighty other Prisoners, all waiting for Trial; at Night slept Six in a Cell; amongst this Number there were several comparatively innocent, and certainly ignorant of Crime, and many others quite desperate Characters, and up to any thing; there was an Officer who came backwards and forwards to suppress any Noise or fighting or gaming, but no Restraint was put on Conversation one with the other; has heard a great deal of very bad Conversation, the more experienced Hands instructing others how gloriously they have got off, and how Depredations may be done with Ease and Safety; there was much swearing, and indecent Tales and Talk; Bibles and Prayer Books were provided, some were disposed to use them, and by Times they met with a great deal of Annoyance for doing so; went to Chapel twice a Week for short Prayers, and once on Sunday for Divine Service; has heard Game made of the Service after the Prisoners returned to their Yards; thinks that a very bad Effect is produced on the Minds of most, by what he saw and heard in Warwick Gaol; few would be disposed to get a Living by honest Labour after being sent in there; a Variety of Modes of gaining a Living in the easiest Manner were pointed out and recommended, particularly coining and passing bad Money; picking of Pockets was practised to instruct one another, and the best Modes of picking Locks and getting into Houses pointed out; it was constantly boasted what a merry and a happy Life they led, that there was Freedom from Labour, and Plenty of Money, and every Pleasure that Money could bring; Prison Allowance was, Sunday 1¾ lb. of Bread and 1 Quart of Oatmeal Gruel, Monday and Thursday 1½ lb. of Bread, ½ lb. of Meat, and 1 Quart of Soup, Tuesday and Friday 1½ lb. of Bread and 1 Quart of Potatoes, Wednesday and Saturday 2 lbs. of Bread; in addition to this, those who could afford it were allowed to lay out 3½*d.* per Day in Butter, Cheese, Coffee, &c., and 7*d.* per Week in Tobacco; smoking was allowed; those who were willing to work were employed at grinding Malt, and were allowed a Penny per Bushel, which they might lay out in Provisions; some few were employed in painting and whitewashing and in keeping the Yards and Cells clean; these were allowed Two Pints of Beer daily; after Trial was placed with Twenty other Transports; Conversation went on much as before, the Subjects were mostly the same; many wished to go Abroad, as they said they could be as happy there as in England; some few were cast down by their Sentence, but the greater Number did not care about it; there was no Work for the Transports, they had to pass the Day in walking about the Yard and sitting in the Hall talking to each other; went to Chapel as before Trial; Prayers were also read by a Prisoner Night and Morning in each Yard; nothing was sold in the Prison; a Woman came in daily and supplied the Prisoners with

No. 3. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in Penitentiary, Milbank.

whatever they wanted; thinks Silence and Separation is very desirable and quite necessary, but impossible to maintain Silence where any Numbers are together; does not think one Prisoner could be trusted to keep Silence or Order amongst the others; Prisoners would not submit to it; very jealous of one Prisoner being put over another; know more of each other than the Officers can, and often see the worst promoted.

9. Would prefer Company if such were put together as would not injure each other, and when first put into Warwick Gaol would have preferred any Company to Solitude or Silence, and so would most, but thinks differently now he has had Time for Reflection; has led for some Time a very bad Life, and travelled the Country as a Musician, and getting his Living as he could, but now wishes to learn Good rather than more Evil, and would therefore choose Silence or Solitude if he had to be committed to Warwick Prison again; is sure it is best for all.

10. Could read and write when admitted.

York Castle and Cumberland Hulk.

1. ——— ———

2. Twenty six Years of Age.

3. Received from the Cumberland Hulk at Chatham on the 19th of December 1832.

4. Seven Months in York Castle before Trial, One after Trial, and nearly Eight Months on board the Cumberland Hulk.

5. Burglary.

6. Transportation Seven Years; commuted to Five Years Imprisonment in the General Penitentiary.

7. Was One Night in Doncaster Prison for Drunkenness, and about Three Years before that was Three or Four Nights in the same Prison for fighting.

8. When committed to York Castle was placed in the old Prison; was at first in that Part of it which is called the Low Grates; there is a Yard and Day-room; about Eighteen or Twenty were together; at Night slept Two in a Cell whilst in that Yard; when in other Yards sometimes Six slept in One Bed Cell; an Officer is almost always walking close by the Yard, who can overlook the Prisoners; all Sorts of Characters were together; some were simple harmless Countrymen, and others Housebreakers, Highway Robbers, Sheep-stealers, and Makers and Passers of counterfeit Money; there was much Talk about Crime, and instructing one another in all Manner of Wickedness; not a Crime that you might not learn how to practise, and how to deceive People with the greatest Safety; there was constant gaming and Card-playing in the Day-room for Money; this led to frequent quarrelling, and has seen them strip and fight over it; Money was allowed to any Amount; the Prisoners could get it; went to Chapel once on the Sundays, not at all on the Week Days; Religion very little thought of amongst the Men, they talked about it after coming from Chapel, some were for it and some were against it; Bibles and Testaments in the Day-room; sometimes used; never saw a Man annoyed for doing so; daily Prison Allowance was One Pound and a Half of Bread, and One Shilling a Week before Trial, to purchase any thing they liked; those who could afford it might spend to any Amount; One Pint of Ale was allowed to each Man, but they had the Means of getting many Quarts daily, and has seen Prisoners tipsy; was himself tipsy; smoking was allowed, and there was singing and smoking and drinking frequently going on, and all Kinds of vile Conversation; the Effect of all this was to make a Man Ten Times worse than before, and he would be sure to return to a Life of Crime; has often felt thankful that he was not liberated at that Time; was removed to the new Prison at York, after being between Three and Four Months in the old, during which Time he was in several of the Day-rooms; was in the new Prison more than Three Months before Trial; there was a Yard and Day-room there, and a separate sleeping Cell for each Prisoner at Night; Things were even worse than in the old, as there was less Inspection; after Trial the only Change that took place was the taking away their own Clothes, and giving each a Prison Dress; Sixpence a Week more Money was allowed; Beer, smoking, and all Kinds of Provisions still allowed; and the same Scenes of gambling, fighting, and singing were daily acted over; very severe Sentences were passed; many Deaths recorded, but it did not produce any Effect; might be rather down for a Night or so, and then every thing was going on just the same. Was removed to the Cumberland Hulk, and was there Eight Months; there was not so much gambling, nor any drinking, but for bad Talk, particularly about Crime, it was even worse; Contamination was even more certain than at York Castle; does not see any Way of stopping this Mischief except by keeping the Men separate; as long as Men are together they will invent Ways of carrying on their Fancy.

9. Would prefer total Silence and Separation; would not have done so when committed to York Castle; what he has seen and learnt has led him to know the Value of Order and Quiet; when left to yourself more likely to go to God; never would have done so if left in York Castle.

10. Could read and write before he came here.

No. 4. Answers and Observations by the Governor of the House of Correction at Petworth.

No. 4.

Answers and Observations by the Keeper of the House of Correction at Petworth to the Questions circulated by Order of the Committee of the House of Lords.

1st.—Is the Gaol in your Charge a Common Gaol, or House of Correction, or Bridewell?—A House of Correction, and also a Prison for the Reception of Prisoners committed to take their Trial at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for the Western Division of the County of Sussex.

2d.—Under whose Jurisdiction and Superintendence is the said Gaol?—The Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said Division of the County, and under the Superintendence of Seventeen Visiting Justices appointed by the said Sessions.

3d.—Besides the Emoluments comprised in the annexed Table, do you derive any and what Perquisite, Benefit, or Advantage out of the Gaol Establishment, or the Provisions or Necessaries supplied thereto, or otherwise, and what was the average Value thereof in each Year mentioned in the Table?—In addition to my Salary of 150*l.* inserted in the Table, I receive 10*l.* annually for keeping the Accounts, Books of the Prison and Manufactory, collecting in the Debts of the same, &c.; and during the Years mentioned in the Table I had the Benefit of the Wall Fruit and Use of the Gardens, as well as a sufficient Allowance of Coal and Candles, at the yearly average Value of about 20*l.*; but since the Enlargement of the Prison in the Year 1834 the Gardens have been taken in for additional Building and Airing-yards, which is an annual Loss to me of from 12*l.* to 14*l.*; and when the Alterations are completed I propose mentioning this Circumstance to the Justices for their Consideration.

4th.—Out of what Fund is the Salary defrayed?—The County Rates.

5th.—Besides the Payment to the inferior Officers comprised in the Table, do they receive any and what Perquisite, Benefit, or Emolument, and what was the average Value thereof in each Year mentioned in the Table, and out of what Fund was the same received?—The Wages of inferior Officers are paid out of the County Rates, and not out of the Keeper's Salary.

6th.—If you or any of your Officers receive Fees, send the Particulars thereof to the Commissioners, and of the Occasions on which they are taken, and the Authority by which they are claimed?—None received.

7th.—What Wages, Salary, or Emolument was received during each of the Years mentioned in the Table by Persons in the Gaol Establishment, if any, who were employed as Servants, but are not comprised in the Denominations of inferior Officers, and out of what Funds were they paid?—As this Question, like No. 5, appears only to apply to Payment out of the Keeper's Salary, and additional Amounts paid to Servants from any other Source, the Answer to that Question will also apply to this.

8th.—State the Nature of the Disbursement or Outgoings, if any, comprised in the Sixth Column of annexed Table No. 1?—None.

9th.—State the Amount of Expense for Diet, Maintenance, Clothing, and Bedding of the Prisoners mentioned in Table No. 2. during the Period there mentioned, distinguishing the Diet from the other Expenses?—

	Salaries and Allowances.	Total Amount of Salaries and Allowance.	Diet, including extra Food ordered by the Surgeon.	Clothing and Bedding.	Coals, Candles, Soap, Washing, Brooms, Paint, Rates, Taxes, &c.	Conveying Prisoners to and from the Quarter Sessions for Trial.	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Keeper - -	150 0 0							
Chaplain - -	130 0 0							
Surgeon and Midwife -	80 0 0							
Matron - -	40 0 0							
Inferior Officers	107 14 0	517 14 0	156 7 11	90 17 9	113 6 3½	20 14 0	79 8 6½	1,178 8 6
Allowance for keeping Accounts, Books, &c. - -	10 0 0							
Amount deducted, being Profits of the Manufactory, &c. - -								95 7 9
The annual Expense of the Establishment, paid out of the County Rates, &c. - - -								1,083 0 9

In addition to the 296 Persons named in Form No. 2, there were 40 Prisoners in the House at the Commencement of the Year, whose Maintenance, &c. is included in the yearly Expenditure.

10th.—If

No. 4. Answers and Observations by the Governor of the House of Correction at Petworth.

10th.—If your Gaol is a District Gaol or House of Correction, to what District or Division of the County does it belong?—The Western Division of the County.

11th.—Does it receive Persons from any other and what Place out of your District, and under what Circumstances are they sent?—Pursuant to a Contract entered into by the Justices of the Peace of the City of Chichester with the Justices of the Peace for this Division of the County, conformably to the Act of Parliament 5 G. 4. c. 85., Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour in the said City are received into this House of Correction.

12th.—If it is the Common Gaol of the County, is there any and what Place or Part of the County, to your Knowledge, which do not send Prisoners to the Gaol, but elsewhere, and if so, to what Gaol are they sent?—It is not a Common Gaol.

13th.—At what Place and at what Distance from your Gaol are Prisoners sentenced to Transportation delivered over to Government, and by what Means of Conveyance are they sent, and at what Expense per Convict upon the Average, and out of what Funds is the Expense of Conveyance defrayed, until they are delivered over to Government?—Prisoners sentenced to Transportation in this County are generally delivered to Government at Portsmouth, Distance from this Prison Thirty-two Miles; but in consequence of the present Laws or ancient Customs requiring the Sheriff to take charge of such Prisoners, they travel no less than Sixty-six Miles before they arrive at Portsmouth, which Practice is extremely impolitic, and very expensive to this Division of the County, as it will be seen by the following Statement. Prisoners sentenced to Transportation by the Sessions are taken out of my Prison and conveyed, a Distance of Seventeen Miles, to Horsham Gaol, where they remain a few Days, until an Order is received from the Home Office to remove them to the Hulks, when they return the Seventeen Miles before travelled on their Way to Portsmouth, at the average Expense per Convict of about 3*l.* 6*s.*, whereas if they remained in this Prison, and were conveyed direct from hence to Portsmouth, the Expense would be less than Half that Sum. Would it not answer every Purpose to leave Sessions Convicts in the Custody of the Keepers of Houses of Correction until they are delivered over to Government, or make the Sheriffs Visiting Justices of such Prison, with full Power over Convicts?

14th.—In case of conveying Prisoners from one Gaol to another within your County, either for Custody before Trial, or in order to take their Trial, or in order to undergo their Punishment, by what Conveyance are they sent, at what Expense per Prisoner on the Average, and upon what Fund does the Expense fall?—In consequence of the Law requiring a separate Gaol for the Sheriff, the Common Gaol for this County is at Horsham; consequently if a Person is committed to this House of Correction for Re-examination, and afterwards committed to Horsham Gaol for Trial at the Assizes, the Constable generally conveys the Prisoner in a Chaise Cart from hence to that Gaol, a Distance of Seventeen Miles, at an Allowance of 1*s.* per Mile for Conveyance, 2*s.* 6*d.* for his Day's Work, and 9*d.* for the Prisoner's Subsistence. From Horsham the Prisoners are conveyed in a covered Van, a Distance of Twenty-five Miles, to Lewes Assizes, at an Allowance of 1*s.* per Mile; and if the Prisoner be sentenced to Imprisonment in this House of Correction or to Transportation, he returns to the Gaol in the same Manner at an Allowance of 6*d.* per Mile, and from thence to this Prison or to the Hulks at an Allowance of 1*s.* per Mile, making in the whole, from and to this Prison, a Distance of Eighty-four Miles, at a Cost to the County of at least 3*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*, whereas if the Prisoner went direct to the Assizes from this Prison and back for Punishment, he would travel Seventy-four Miles, and if the same Allowances were made from and to the Prison, the Expense to the County would be only 2*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, making a Saving in the County Rates of 19*s.* 3*d.* for every Person so conveyed. In the Eastern Division of the County the present useless Expenditure in the Conveyance of Prisoners is still more apparent. Lewes is the Assize Town where the House of Correction for that Division of the County is situated; but if a Prisoner for Re-examination in that Prison be fully committed for Trial whom the present Law directs shall go to the Common Gaol, the Prisoner has to travel Twenty-five Miles from one Prison to another, and in order to take his Trial must return the same Route, and is lodged in the same Prison from where he was first sent, and if sentenced to Imprisonment in that House of Correction he remains there; thus the Prisoner travels Fifty Miles, at the useless Expense of at least 2*l.* 10*s.* If the Prisoner be capitally convicted or sentenced to Transportation he returns again to the Gaol at Horsham, and on his Sentence being commuted for Imprisonment in Lewes House of Correction he has a Third Time to return to the same Prison where he was first committed, having travelled the Twenty-five Miles Four Times over at the fruitless Expense to the County of 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, which is the Case of every Prisoner being circumstanced in a similar Way. Moreover, every Prisoner transported at the Assizes or Sessions, when conveyed to the Hulks at Portsmouth by passing through Horsham Gaol travels Seventy-four Miles, whereas if he were conveyed direct from Lewes to Portsmouth, the Distance would be only Fifty-nine Miles; and if all the Convicts were conveyed by a small Government Vessel from Brighton to Portsmouth, the Distance by Land is only Eight Miles, which would be a Saving to the County of at least 2*l.* 1*s.* for every Convict thus conveyed to the Hulks. From these and other unnecessary Expenditures of the County Money, would it not be advisable to insert a Clause in the Bill now before Parliament for abolishing Imprisonment for Debt, to repeal the Clause in the Gaol Act which requires at least One House of Correction and One Gaol in every County or Division of a County, &c., and thereby abolish also unnecessary Gaols by allowing the Gaol and House of Correction to be one and the same Prison. If Horsham Gaol was discontinued and Petworth Prison made the Gaol and House of Correction for the Western

No. 4. Answers and Observations by the Governor of the House of Correction at Petworth.

Western Division, and Lewes Prison the Gaol and House of Correction for the Eastern Division, it would be a Saving on the County Rates of 1,000*l.* annually; and if the Sheriff was made a Visiting Justice of those Prisons, with full Power over Gaol Prisoners, the Duty of that Gentleman would be as effectually performed as if he had a separate Part of that Building under his Control; but if this should be thought inefficient, a separate Part of these Houses of Correction might be appropriated to the Sheriff's Prison. The Expenses and Means of conveying Prisoners to the General Quarter Sessions for Trial from this House of Correction differ from that of Horsham Gaol. I convey them, with the Assistance of Guards, in tilted Waggons employed by Contract for that Purpose, the County paying the actual Expense thereof, which varies according to the Duration of the Session, the Number of Persons to be conveyed, and the Distance they have to travel. Our last Chichester Sessions occupied Three Days, which is Twenty-eight Miles, from and to the Prison; and after paying every Expense attending the same, the Cost per Prisoner to the County was a Fraction less than 8*s.* 10½*d.* or 3¾*d.* per Mile for each Prisoner. With respect to the printed Calendars mentioned in your Letter, I respectfully inform you that the Calendars of Prisoners for Trial were not printed in this Division of the County until the Year 1833, which I herewith send you; but every possible Information may be obtained by Reference to my written Calendar, regularly transmitted to the Home Office.

In addition to the Answers required by the Commissioners, I most respectfully offer for their Consideration the following Suggestions and Observations.

As the heavy Expense of the Criminal Jurisprudence of the Kingdom necessarily involves the Expediency as well as the Utility of the Expenditure, it becomes an important Inquiry, whether the Community derive any and what Benefit from the annual Amounts expended for the Preservation of Life, the Protection of Property and the Peace of the Country; and whether, under all the Circumstances contemplated, the System cannot be carried on and improved at far less Expense to the Country, and thereby reduce the County Rates, by speedily discharging the innocent and mercifully punishing the guilty by instant Trial, and also changing our Prison Association and Corruption into separate Confinement and Reformation.

The first Suggestion I would offer, in order to relieve the County Rates, Prosecutors and Witnesses the Time, Trouble, and Expense of attending, first before the Committing Magistrate, and then the Courts of Assize or Quarter Sessions, is, that in all Cases of minor Misdemeanors and Larcenies the Justices of the Peace at their Petty Sessions should have similar Power to the Coroners of Counties to impannel a Jury, to inquire into the Innocence or Guilt of Persons charged with such Offences as did not require a greater Punishment than One Year's Imprisonment to hard Labour; and, if necessary, Counsel or Solicitors might be heard on behalf of the Prosecution or the Prisoner. If this Plan were adopted, the innocent would be instantly discharged out of Custody, and not, as the Practice is now, remain Two or Three Months in Imprisonment before they are liberated, the guilty would be punished, and the County saved the Mileage of Prosecutors and Witnesses, and their attending Two or Three Days at the Assize or Sessions, and also the Expense of keeping such Prisoners in Prison before their Trial.

And, secondly, I would recommend, that strict Silence and separate Confinement be substituted for the injudicious and corrupting Classifications of the Gaol Acts.

The next and only Evil remaining in our Prison Discipline to be remedied is the Substitution of productive for non-productive Labour, and thereby relieving the Country from the Expense of their Establishments, which might be done by adopting the Plan recommended in my Pamphlet on "Prison Discipline," herewith inclosed.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
John Mance, Keeper.

No. 5.

No. 5. Answers and Observations by the Governor of the County Gaol at Derby.

Answers and Observations by the Governor of the County Gaol at Derby to the Questions circulated by Order of the Committee of the House of Lords.

Sir, Derby County Gaol, 26th April 1835.

I herewith return your Letter, with the Answers to the Queries required; at the same Time I enclose for your Information an Abstract of the Expenditure of this Prison for the Year ending 13th September 1834, also a brief Statement of the silent Discipline adopted in this Gaol, which appears to work well. I beg leave to observe that I have not had but Two Recommittals to this Prison for the last Two Years and Half; they were Two Males; I have not had a single Female.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
J. Sims, Governor.

To W. Courtenay, Esq.
Deputy Clerk Parliaments,
London.

Abstract of Expenditure at the County Prison, Derby.

Quarter ending	Average No. of Prisoners Quarterly on Diet.	Average No. of Prisoners Quarterly.	Bread. £ s. d.	Meal. £ s. d.	Potatoes. £ s. d.	Onions. £ s. d.	Herrings. £ s. d.	Salt. £ s. d.	Meat. £ s. d.	Milk. £ s. d.	Maintenance from the Governor's House. £ s. d.	Ale. £ s. d.	Total Quarterly Amount of Subsistence. £ s. d.	Quarterly Subsistence Average per Week. £ s. d.	Quarterly Subsistence Average per Head per Week. s. d.	Total Expense of 52 Weeks. £ s. d.	Average per Week for 52 Weeks. £ s. d.	Average per Head per Week. s. d.
1833.—14 Dec. -	125	- -	136 13 6	20 2 0¼	16 2 2	0 14 8	0 0 0	1 3 1½	8 7 1½	1 5 6⅛	1 15 9¾	0 2 5¾	186 6 5	14 6 8	2 3,52			
1834.—15 March -	123	158	122 16 11¼	19 5 8	15 11 4¾	1 11 3	0 0 0	1 4 4½	7 7 4½	2 8 1½	2 10 3	0 11 5¼	173 6 10¼	13 6 8	2 2,01			
14 June -	91	110	90 11 5	13 11 3½	14 8 4	0 7 9	2 11 11¾	0 15 0	5 11 4½	0 16 6¾	2 5 6	0 9 11¾	131 9 2¼	10 2 3	2 2,67			
13 Sept. -	85	94	85 2 3	12 19 5¼	12 13 3	0 12 0	0 11 0¼	0 11 10½	2 19 9	1 9 10¼	1 11 6	0 4 4½	118 15 4¼	9 2 8½	2 1,79			
Average for 52 Weeks	106															609 17 9¾	11 14 6¾	2 2.55
Total	-	-	435 4 1¼	65 18 5	58 15 1¾	3 5 8	3 3 0	3 14 4½	24 5 7½	6 0 1¼	8 3 0¾	1 8 3¾	- - -	- - -	- -			

Salaries, &c.	Quarter, ending 14 Dec. 1833. £ s. d.	Quarter, ending 15 March 1834. £ s. d.	Quarter, ending 14 June 1834. £ s. d.	Quarter, ending 13 Sept. 1834. £ s. d.			
Salaries to Chaplain, Surgeon, Governor, Matron, Bookkeeper, Male and Female Turnkeys, and Watchman -	243 2 0	239 2 6	239 0 0	240 0 0	961 4 6	18 9 8½	3 5.86
Coals, 100 Tons, 1 Cwt. - - - -	16 7 8	18 5 6	11 16 11	3 12 8	50 2 9	0 19 3½	0 2.18
Chips - - - - - -	1 4 6	1 1 0	0 0 0	0 3 6	2 9 0	0 0 11¼	0 0.11
Taxes - - - - - - -	16 9 7½	4 17 8	16 12 1½	4 17 8	42 17 1	0 16 5¾	0 1.87
Manure, &c. for Garden - - -	1 6 4	0 0 0	3 7 0	0 0 0	4 13 4	0 1 9½	0 0.20
Bedding - - - - - -	4 2 2½	37 10 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	41 12 2½	0 16 0	0 1.81
Stationery - - - - - -	5 1 1	4 8 9	4 16 5	1 11 8	15 17 11	0 6 1¼	0 0.69
Tread-wheel - - - - - -	0 7 4	0 3 10⅓	5 3 5	0 2 3	5 16 10½	0 2 3	0 0.26
Repairs and Alterations - - - -	21 18 2¼	26 18 5½	14 2 9	15 9 10¼	78 9 3	1 10 2	0 3.42
Guarding and Conveying Prisoners - -	2 19 6¾	2 0 0	25 10 9	3 8 0	33 18 3¼	0 13 0	0 1.48
Utensils - - - - - -	7 4 0½	13 1 11	4 8 2½	2 3 0½	26 17 2½	0 10 4	0 1.17
Soap, 509 lbs. 10 oz. - - - -	2 14 11½	2 17 3	2 13 7	2 3 6½	10 9 4	0 4 0¼	0 0.46
Clothing - - - - - -	13 19 10½	22 9 10¼	3 2 1	12 6 5½	51 18 3¼	1 0 0	0 2.26
Allowance to discharged Prisoners - -	3 5 1	2 16 3	2 17 6½	1 14 7	10 13 5½	0 4 1⅓	0 0.46
Brushes (124) - - - - -	2 0 0	2 15 0	2 19 0	1 16 8	9 10 8	0 3 8	0 0.41
Besoms (166) - - - - -	0 5 6	0 5 7½	0 5 5⅓	0 5 0½	1 1 7½	0 0 5	0 0.05
Mops (401) - - - - -	1 1 8	1 3 11½	0 18 9	0 13 1½	3 17 6	0 1 6	0 0.17
Oil, Candles, &c. - - - - -	2 2 10	2 13 9	1 4 0	0 16 9	6 17 4	0 2 7⅔	0 0.30
Sweeping Chimneys - - - - -	1 11 6	0 0 0	1 11 6	0 0 0	3 3 0	0 1 2	0 0.13
Tithe - - - - - -	1 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 1 0	0 0 5	0 0.05
Deserter's Maintenance - - - -	0 10 6	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 10 6	0 0 2⅓	0 0.02
Postages - - - - - -	0 6 6	0 8 5	0 9 2	0 11 6	1 15 7	0 0 8	0 0.07
£	349 1 11¼	382 19 9¼	340 18 8	291 16 3¾	1,974 14 6	37 19 6	7 1.98
Stock in Gaol, 13th September 1834 - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9 4 6		
Cash in Mr. Sims' Hands - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	18 4 2		
				£	2,002 3 2		

1833,	£ s. d.
14 Sept., Stock in Gaol unappropriated - - - -	14 1 4¼
——— Cash in Mr. Sims' hands - - - - -	40 11 2
Orders on County Treasurer - - - - -	1,929 15 9¾
Prisoners' Maintenance repaid - - - - -	10 13 3
Potatoes and Onions from Garden - - - - -	7 1 7
£	2,002 3 2

J. Sims,
Governor of the County Gaol, Derby.

No. 5. Answers and Observations by the Governor of the County Gaol at Derby.

1st.—When the first Bell rings for unlocking in the Morning, the Men are to fall in until they are mustered, then dismissed to wash their Hands and Faces, for which Purpose Twenty Minutes will be allowed; at the second Bell every Man falls in in front of his Yard until he receives a Signal to move off into the Wheel-yard (Right and Left), an Officer waiting there to tell them off to their different Cages, which will be done by a Signal from the Front.

2d.—At a Quarter past Eight o'Clock every Man will move down from the Wheel by No. 6, and fall in in front of their Cages with the highest Number of each Yard on the Right. C. Section 3, being the first Yard to move, will receive a Signal to advance to the Front, and another to face to the Right, and march off in Succession to their Yard, the highest Number taking up his Can of Gruel and leading to his Cell, the Officer at the same Time being ready to close the Door after him, and so on down to Number 1. After the Men eat their Breakfasts they are to fold up their Bedding neatly, sweep the Walls and Cells out ready for the Wardsman to take away the Dirt on their leaving the Cells.

3d.—At a Quarter to Nine o'Clock each Officer will go round, and unlock the Cell Doors ready for the Prisoners to turn out, when every Man falls in, faces to the Left, and moves down to the Yard, to be marched round in File under the Inspection of a Turnkey until the Bell rings for Divine Service; at Nine o'Clock they then move up to the Chapel; after Chapel is over the whole fall in in the same Order as in No. 1. to the Wheel-yard, there to remain until told off by an Officer as above directed.

4th.—When the Clock strikes Twelve, the whole move off the Wheel by the Steps at No. 6, and fall in in front, the highest Number of each Yard on the Right, until they receive a Signal to march to their Cells with their Dinners.

5th.—At Half past Twelve o'Clock the Bell will ring for the Turnkey to open the Cell Doors, when every Man falls in, receives a Signal to face to the Left, to move down to the Airing-ground, and walk round the Yard in File under the Inspection of the Turnkey until the Bell rings at One o'Clock, at which Time they move out, and fall in as above stated.

6th.—At Six o'Clock all the Men leave the Wheel in the same Order as above, march to their Yard, take their Suppers, preceded by a Turnkey to close the Cell Doors after them, and remain there until a Quarter of an Hour before locking, when the Turnkey will open the Cell Doors, and the Men will fall in as usual, and move down to the Yard for Muster.

7th.—At the second Bell ringing each Man will face to his Right, and march to his Cell as before stated, the Turnkey being in readiness to receive him and lock him up for the Night, from the highest Number down to No. 1.

8th.—The Turnkey and Wardsman are to visit the Cells after each Meal, to see they are properly cleaned, and the Bedding folded neatly.

9th.—Every Monday Morning after Chapel the Men will fall in in front as usual with every Man his Shirt in his Hand, and face inwards, and move to the Female Prison Door, where there will be Two Officers in readiness to examine them to see they are not damaged; after this they file into the Wheel-yard, and are told off to their different Cages for Work. During the Hours for Exercise on Wednesdays and Saturdays the Men will wash their Feet, and the Officer in charge to give his Certificate into the Office as usual.

10th.—It must be perfectly understood that all these Movements must be executed in Silence; no Man will be allowed to speak to another on any Account without the Permission being first obtained from the Governor, according to the Visiting Justices Orders.

11th.—The Wardsmen of each Ward will fall in every Saturday on the Left of the Men of their respective Yards (with the Utensils which require exchanging) for the Governor's Inspection, Mr. Thompson attending at the same Time with the Book of Entry of those Articles, and proving the former Issue.

12th.—The Turnkey whose Duty it is to be stationed in the Wheel-yard at the Time of falling the Prisoners in for their different Cells is not to give the Signal to the Prisoners of the Second Yard until he sees the Turnkey ready to receive them, and lead them to their Cells, and so on until the last Yard, which will be F. 2.; that Yard he can take himself and lock up.

13th.—On Sunday the Prisoners are to be unlocked at Seven o'Clock in the Morning, the Turnkey commencing at No. 1. up to the highest Number, and as he unlocks the Men are to turn out, bring their Tubs with them to empty at the Water-closet, and return to the Place of Muster, where he is to remain until mustered in charge of the Wardsmen, who are to sleep in No. 1. Cell, so that he may be the first Man out to take charge until the Turnkey has finished unlocking.

14th.—After Muster the Prisoners are to be dismissed as on other Days to wash their Faces and Hands and comb their Hair, for which Time will be allowed, Half an Hour, say a Quarter before Eight o'Clock, and from that Time to Half past Eight the Prisoners are to sit on the Seats in the Day-room with their Books to read. Any one of them may read to the others in a low Tone of Voice, so as not to be heard on the Outside of the Day-room; but it must be thoroughly understood the Turnkeys are to be stationed in the Day-rooms at the same Time, and not to leave the Prisoners to allow them to hold Conversation with each other on any Account whatever, nor speak to each other without Leave from the Governor to do so. At that Time the Bell will ring for Breakfast, when the Prisoners are all to stand up, and facing to their Left march out of the Day-rooms with the highest Number in front, who leads to the Tin which stands the foremost from the Door; after taking up his Loaf and Tin

facing

facing to his left Hand, and leads through the Day-room up to his Cell, where the Officer is to be ready to lock him up, there to remain until Ten Minutes to Nine o'Clock, when the Bell will ring for them to turn out of their Cells, and stand in front until they receive a Signal to face to their Left, and march down to the Yard to be searched, to see they take nothing with them to Chapel, for which Time Five Minutes will be allowed. The Bell will ring Five Minutes before Nine o'Clock for Chapel, when the Prisoners will face to their Right and Left, and lead up to the Chapel. After Divine Service is concluded the Prisoners are to walk quietly round the Yard (Weather permitting) for a Quarter or Half an Hour, then filed into the Day-room, and sit down, as above stated.

No. 5. Answers and Observations by the Governor of the County Gaol at Derby.

15th.—On the Bell ringing at Twelve o'Clock they will stand up and move the same as directed at Breakfast Time, and march up to their Cells for Dinner, and remain there until Half an Hour before Chapel. When the Bell rings every Prisoner will turn out, and stand before his Cell as before directed until he gets the Signal to move down to the Day-room, until Five Minutes before Chapel, when the Bell will ring for them to fall in to be searched as before for the Chapel. After Divine Service they are to move down to the Yard and take Air by walking round at their Leisure for a Quarter or Half an Hour, and then march into the Day-room and sit down to read until the Bell rings for them to fall in for Supper, when they will execute every Movement as before for Breakfast and Dinner; but the Turnkeys must understand all this is to be performed without speaking a Word, but to be done in perfect Silence.

Derby County Gaol. J. Sims, Governor.

No. 6.

No. 6. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners at Lewes, Sussex.

Answers to Questions put to Prisoners in the House of Correction at Lewes, Sussex.

No. 1. ——— ———

1st.—(*Answer to this Question not recorded.*)
2d.—Had been in this Prison Fourteen Months.
3d.—Was committed for passing counterfeit Coin.
4th.—Was committed before for Housebreaking in March 1832.
5th.—Was only Thirteen Years of Age at that Time.
6th.—Was committed for Twelve Months.
7th.—Had not previously been much in bad Company.
8th.—If he were to live that Time over again, would rather be shut up solitary than exposed to the bad Conversation of the Day-rooms.
9th.—Should not have known how to pass counterfeit Coin if he had not been in this Company.
10th.—Thinks that at present the separate Cells prevent Prisoners conversing with each other.
11th.—Does not dare to speak loud for fear of being heard by the Turnkey.
12th.—Formerly was never allowed to read by other Prisoners in the Day-room.
13th.—He himself could neither read nor write, had only learnt a little Spelling since in Prison.

No. 2. ——— ———

1st.—Committed for an Assault upon a Woman on the 4th of July 1833. Time will be up next July.
2d.—Was a Labouring Man at ———; was Twenty-one Years of Age when committed.
3d.—Would rather have the Day-rooms back again.
4th.—Some of the Brightoners used to be very different from the other Prisoners, used to jeer those who attempted to read, and used to steal their Bread.
5th.—In his Day-room used to punish Prisoners for stealing Bread.
9th.—Thinks there is no Talking now in the separate Cells; never hears any.
10th.—Petworth Prison not reckoned so good as this; less to eat.
11th.—Is about the same in other Things. Prisoners used to say they were very strict and sharp at Petworth.
12th.—Found that the Tread-wheel worked him very much.
13th.—Is a much better Man since he has had the Allowance of Potatoes (given after Three Months).
14th.—Was about Four Years at School, but never took any Delight in learning.
15th.—Used to see Tobacco in the Day-rooms.
16th.—Prisoners can't get any now, he thinks not now.

No. 6. Answers to Questions put to Prisoners at Lewes, Sussex.

No. 3.———— ————

1st.—Committed for Two Months for stealing some Iron at————————

2d.—Committed before for making a Row at the Fair in December 1833, and also about Four Years ago for a Row at a Public House.

3d.—All Three Times at Lewes House of Correction.

4th.—Belongs to ————————

5th.—Don't much care whether they have Day-rooms or not.

6th —Can now read his Book, and so pass away the Time.

7th.—Was between Eighteen and Nineteen Years of Age when first committed.

8th.—Heard a good many bad Things in Prison which he should not have heard otherwise.

9th.—Can read and write.

10th.—Was at School at ———————

11th.—Left School at Ten Years of Age.

12th.—Hears Prisoners say that this Prison is now very bad; too little Food.

13th.—They like Brixton and Maidstone better.

14th.—Thinks they object principally to the small Quantity of Food.

No 4. ———— ———— ————

1st.—Committed at last Assizes for Night Poaching at ————————

2d.—Was at Horsham for Four Months before Trial.

3d.—Was committed before for Poaching at Christmas 1833.

4th.—Was also committed Four other Times, Three of which for Poaching, and Once for an Assault; Six in all.

5th.—Had rather have the Separation than the old Day-rooms.

6th.—Was not hindered from reading in the Day-rooms, but there was so much Noise he could not read comfortably.

7th.—Used to talk a good deal about Poaching.

8th.—Learned a little of that.

9th.—So that after he came out was better able to go *to work*, (that is to say "to poach") again.

10th.—Has heard them say in the Day-rooms that this was the worst Prison they ever came to.

11th.—Thought Petworth was better as to Food.

12th.—Used to go to ———————— Sunday School.

No. 7.

No. 7. Rules and Regulations of the Houses of Correction in Surrey.

Rules and Regulations made for the Government of the Houses of Correction of the County of Surrey.

Rules and Regulations made in pursuance of the several Acts of Parliament now in force relating to Gaols and Houses of Correction in England by His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Surrey in General Quarter Session assembled, and certified by His Majesty's Justices of Gaol Delivery to contain therein nothing contrary to Law.

1. The Governor or Keeper shall execute his Office in Person. He shall reside within the Prison, and shall not absent himself on his own Business for Twenty-four Hours or a Night, except on reasonable or urgent Occasions, and then not without Permission of the Visiting Justices, entering in his Journal on both Occasions, before his Departure, the Cause of his Absence and the Place whither he is going. He shall take care that his Turnkeys and other Servants constantly lodge within the Prison, and shall not permit any Person to sleep in his House except himself, his Wife, Children, and Servants, nor any Person whatsoever in the House of the Taskmaster, Matron, Turnkey, or Porter, except such respective Officers.

2. The Governor or Keeper shall not be an Under Sheriff or Bailiff, nor shall he be concerned in any Occupation or Trade whatsoever; neither the Governor or Keeper, nor any Officer of the Prison, shall sell, nor shall any Person in Trust for such Governor or Keeper, or employed by him, sell or have any Benefit or Advantage from the Sale of any Article to any Prisoner, nor shall he directly or indirectly have any Interest in any Contract or Agreement for the Supply of the Prison.

3. The Matron and assistant Female Officers shall reside in the Prison, and it shall be the Duty of the Matron constantly to superintend the Female Prisoners, and such Female Prisoners shall in all Cases be attended by Female Officers.

4. The

No. 7. Rules and Regulations of the Houses of Correction in Surrey.

4. The Governor or Keeper shall, as far as may be practicable, visit every Ward, and see every Prisoner, and inspect every Cell, once at least in every Twenty-four Hours, and inspect minutely the State of Security of the Prison. He shall attend the Prisoners in the Chapel, and notice their Behaviour in his Journal.

5. When the Governor or Keeper, or any other Male Officer, shall visit the Female Prisoners, he shall be accompanied by the Matron, or, in case of her unavoidable Absence, by some Female Officer of the Prison.

6. The Governor or Keeper shall keep a Journal of all Occurrences of Importance in the Prison, in which he shall record all Punishments inflicted by his Authority or by that of the Visiting Justices, and the Days when such Punishments shall have taken place; which Journal shall be laid before the Justices at every General Quarter Session, and be signed by the Chairman in proof of the same having been there produced.

7. He shall keep a Book with the following descriptive Particulars of all the Prisoners under his Charge, viz. Number, Sex, Age, Name, Description of Person, Place from whence brought, Trade or Profession, Date of Commitment and by whom committed, when received, Crime charged, Sentence, Expiration of Imprisonment, and when discharged; lastly, Observations, such as whether confined in this Prison before, how often, for what Offences, and Conduct in Prison.

8. All Books and other Documents belonging to the House of Correction shall be laid before the Visiting Justices at their respective Meetings.

9. The Governor or Keeper shall be exact in classing and separating the Prisoners according to the Directions herein-after mentioned, and taking care that the Male and Female Prisoners shall be confined in separate Buildings or Parts of the Prison, so as to prevent them from seeing, conversing, or holding any Intercourse with each other; and the Prisoners of each Sex shall be divided into distinct Classes in the following Manner, taking care that the Prisoners of different Classes do not intermix with each other:—

In the House of Correction at Brixton.

1. Male and Female Prisoners convicted of Felony, and sentenced to hard Labour.
2. Male and Female Prisoners convicted of Misdemeanors, and sentenced to hard Labour.
3. Male and Female Prisoners convicted of being idle and disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, or reputed Thieves, and adjudged to hard Labour.
4. Prisoners convicted of Offences under the Mutiny Act and committed by Courts-martial, and Deserters.
5. Male and Female Prisoners committed to hard Labour under summary Convictions of Magistrates.
6. Prisoners convicted of any Felony or Misdemeanor for which solitary Confinement may be awarded.

In the House of Correction at Guildford.

1. Male and Female Prisoners convicted of Felony, and sentenced to hard Labour.
2. Male Prisoners convicted by a Jury of Misdemeanors, and sentenced to hard Labour.
3. Male and Female Prisoners convicted of being idle and disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, or reputed Thieves, and adjudged to hard Labour.
4. Male and Female Prisoners committed to hard Labour under summary Convictions of Magistrates, and Deserters.
5. Male and Female Prisoners, charged with Felony or Misdemeanor, for Re-examination.
6. Prisoners convicted of any Felony or Misdemeanor for which solitary Confinement may be awarded.

In the House of Correction at Kingston-upon-Thames.

1. Male and Female Prisoners under summary Convictions of Magistrates, where not ordered to be punished by hard Labour, and the reputed Fathers of Bastard Children before any Order of Filiation made, and Deserters.
2. Male and Female Prisoners intended to be examined as Witnesses on behalf of the Crown in any Prosecution.

10. Provided that if the Governor or Keeper shall at any Time deem it improper or inexpedient for a Prisoner to associate with the other Prisoners of the Class to which he or she may belong, it shall be lawful for him to confine such Prisoner with any other Class or Description of Prisoners, or in any other Part of the Prison, until he can receive the Directions of a Visiting Justice thereon, to whom he shall apply with as little Delay as possible.

11. At Six o'Clock in the Morning from Lady Day to Michaelmas, and as early as the Daylight will permit during the remaining Part of the Year, on every Day except Sunday, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, and on Days appointed by Public Authority for Fasting or Thanksgiving, the Prisoners shall be set to work, and such of them as may have been committed to hard Labour shall be employed therein for a Time not exceeding Ten Hours, exclusive of the Time allowed for Meals, and a Bell shall be rung in the Morning Half an Hour before the Prisoners are set to work.

12. Strict Silence shall be observed by the Prisoners throughout the Prisons of Brixton and Guildford during the Hours of Labour and Meals, and the Prisoners shall be confined

No. 7. Rules and Regulations of the Houses of Correction in Surrey.

in their Cells on Sunday, except during the Hours of Divine Service and of School, which is considered under the Direction of the Chaplain.

13. The Governor or Keeper, or, in his Absence, the principal Turnkey, shall see that the Day-rooms, Work-rooms, Passages, and sleeping Cells be swept, washed, and cleansed once a Week, or oftener if required, and that the Bread and other Provisions for the Day be distributed to such Prisoners as are kept and maintained at the Expense of the County every Morning, at such Times and in such Proportions as the Visiting Justices shall direct.

14. The Governor or Keeper, Matron, or other Officer in their respective Departments, shall see that the Prisoners comb their Hair, and wash their Hands and Faces, (for which purpose proper Cisterns, Towels, Soap, and Combs shall be provided,) before any Food is delivered to them for the Day, and shall encourage and promote Cleanliness by every possible Means.

15. The Governor or Keeper shall take care that neither the Prisoners nor the County be defrauded, and shall see that all the Provisions supplied by the County to the Prisoners be of proper Quality, and weighed by the Scales and legal Weights and Measures provided for that Purpose, which Scales and Weights shall be open to the Use of any Prisoner.

16. No Money under the Name of Garnish, or under any Pretence whatever, shall be taken from any Prisoner on his or her Entrance into the Prison, nor any Fee, Gratuity, or Emolument shall be received by the Governor or Keeper, Matron, or any Person employed under him or her, from any Prisoner in his Custody, and the Governor or Keeper shall be accountable for any Breach of this Rule by any such Person.

17. The daily Allowance to each Prisoner kept and maintained at the Expense of the County shall be One Pound and a Half of good Wheaten Household Bread of a former Day's baking, and each Prisoner employed in Labour shall be also allowed per Week, in addition, One Pound of Meat without Bone, made into Soup, with Scotch Barley or Oatmeal, and such Vegetables as the Garden at each House of Correction may produce, and such Soup shall be given in such Manner and at such Times as the Visiting Justices, with the Advice of the Surgeon, shall direct.

18. But Prisoners under the Care of the Surgeon shall be allowed such Diet as he shall direct.

19. No Tap shall be kept within the Prison, nor any spirituous nor fermented Liquors in any Case be allowed, unless by a written Order of the Surgeon, specifying the Quantity and for whose Use, and upon his entering an Order for that Purpose in his Journal.

20. No Prisoner who is confined under the Sentence of any Court, nor any Prisoner confined in pursuance of any Conviction before a Justice, shall receive any Food, Clothing, or Necessaries other than the Prison Allowance, except under special Circumstances, to be judged of by One or more of the Visiting Justices.

21. All Articles of Food, Clothing, and Bedding, and every Parcel intended for the Use of the Prisoners, shall be examined by the Governor or Keeper, or, in his necessary Absence, by the principal Turnkey, in order that it may be ascertained that such Articles are not likely to communicate Infection or facilitate Escape.

22. No Prisoner confined under the Sentence of any Court shall be permitted to have any personal Communication with any Person from without the Prison, unless by an Order in Writing signed by One Visiting Justice, and then only between the Hours of Twelve and One in the Day once a Week, that is to say, the Male Prisoners on every Wednesday, and the Female Prisoners every Tuesday, and then only in the Presence of the Governor or Keeper or Matron, or during his or her necessary Absence in the Presence of the principal Turnkey or assistant Female Officer, and no other Prisoners (except Prisoners under summary Convictions of Justices, and who will be entitled to their Discharge on Payment of pecuniary Penalties, and the reputed Fathers of Bastard Children before any Order of Filiation made, who shall be allowed to see their Friends between the Hours of Twelve and One every Day except Sunday,) shall have any personal Communication with any Person from without the Prison, unless by a like Order of One Visiting Justice, and then only between the Hours of Ten in the Forenoon and One in the Afternoon once every Week, viz. the Male Prisoners on every Wednesday, and the Female Prisoners on every Tuesday.

23. Provided that nothing in the foregoing Rule shall be construed to extend to prevent Prosecutors and others from having necessary Communication with Prisoners intended to be examined on any Prosecution on behalf of the Crown, at other Times than those above mentioned, under an Order in Writing signed by One Visiting Justice.

Provided also, that any Two Visiting Justices may, in case they should see any special Occasion, but not otherwise, depart from the said Rule, and authorize the Admission of any Person or Persons to visit any of the Prisoners, upon any Day in the Week, between the Hours of Twelve and Two in the Day.

24. All written Intercourse between the Prisoners and their Friends shall be subject to the Inspection of the Governor or Keeper, who shall communicate all or any Part of the Contents of the same to the Prisoners, or withhold the same, at his Discretion; and the Prisoners, with Permission of the Visiting Justices, shall be allowed to write to their Friends, their Letters being under the Inspection of the Governor or Keeper.

25. The Business of washing for the Prisoners shall be executed by the Female Prisoners under the Superintendence of the Matron, and such Female Prisoners shall be allowed, on their Discharge, a Recompence under the Direction of the Visiting Justices.

26. At

26. At Six o'Clock in the Evening from Lady Day to Michaelmas, and at Sunset from Michaelmas to Lady Day, a Bell shall be rung as a Signal for leaving Work, and an Account shall be then taken of the Work done; and the Tools and all Implements of Labour shall be delivered to the Turnkeys of the Prison, and safely locked up by them.

27. Prisoners under Charge or Conviction of any Crime shall attend Divine Service on Sundays, and on other Days when such Service is performed, unless prevented by Illness or other reasonable Cause, to be allowed by the Governor or Keeper, or, unless their Attendance shall be dispensed with, by One of the Visiting Justices.

28. It shall be lawful for any One or more Visiting Justice or Justices to authorize by Order in Writing the Employment of any Persons committed to Prison for Trial who are willing to be employed in such Work or Labour as can be conveniently executed in the Prison, and it shall be lawful for the Governor or Keeper to employ such Prisoners accordingly, and to pay to such Prisoners any such Wages or Portion of the same, and at such Periods as shall be directed by such Justices; provided that no Prisoners shall be placed together on account of such Employment who would otherwise be kept separate under the Provisions of any Act of Parliament.

29. An Account shall be kept of the Profits arising from the Labour of Prisoners, and such Parts thereof shall be paid to them, or applied to their Benefit, on their Discharge, as the Visiting Justices shall direct.

30. It shall be lawful for Two or more Visiting Justices to order that Persons sentenced to Imprisonment without being sentenced to hard Labour (except such Prisoners as shall maintain themselves) shall be set to some Work or Labour not severe, as to them shall appear expedient, and they shall provide Materials necessary for that Purpose; and no such Prisoner who shall be of sufficient Ability to earn, and who shall have the Means of earning or of otherwise providing for his own Subsistence, shall have any Claim to be supported at the Expense of the County or by the Keeper; provided, that when such Ability shall cease by reason of Sickness, Infirmity, the Want of sufficient Work, or from any other Cause, every such Person shall, during the Continuance of his Inability, receive such Provision and Support as shall be directed for other convicted Prisoners in the same Prison; and the Governor or Keeper shall keep an Account of the Work done by every Prisoner so set to work as aforesaid, and shall account to such Prisoner for so much of the net Profits which such Prisoner shall have earned, or for such daily or other Allowance as shall be directed by the Visiting Justices, and shall pay the Amount of all Accumulations of such Allowance to such Prisoner at his or her Discharge.

31. No Prisoner shall be put in Irons by the Governor or Keeper except in case of urgent and absolute Necessity; and the Particulars of every such Case shall be forthwith entered in the Governor or Keeper's Journal, and Notice forthwith given thereof to One of the Visiting Justices; and the Governor or Keeper shall not continue the Use of Irons on any Prisoner longer than Four Days without an Order in Writing from a Visiting Justice, specifying the Cause thereof, which Order shall be preserved by the Governor or Keeper as his Warrant for the same.

32. Every Prisoner shall be provided with suitable Bedding, and every Male Prisoner with a separate Bed, Hammock, or Cot, either in a separate Cell, or in a Cell with not less than Two other Male Prisoners.

33. All Prisoners shall be allowed as much Air and Exercise as may be deemed proper for the Preservation of their Health.

34. The Governor or Keeper shall have Power to hear Complaints touching any of the following Offences; viz.

Disobedience to any of the Rules of the Prison, Assaults by one Person confined in such Prison upon another, where no dangerous Wound or Bruise is given, profane Cursing and Swearing, any indecent Behaviour, or any irreverent Behaviour at Chapel, all of which are declared to be Offences, if committed by any Description of Prisoners; Absence from Chapel without Leave, Idleness, or Negligence of Work, or wilful Mismanagement of it, which are also declared to be Offences, if committed by any Prisoner under Charge or Conviction of any Crime; and the Governor or Keeper may examine any Persons touching such Offences, and may determine thereupon, and may punish all such Offences by ordering any Offender to close Confinement in the refractory or solitary Cells, and by keeping such Offenders upon Bread and Water only, for any Term not exceeding Three Days.

35. And in case any Criminal Prisoner shall be guilty of any repeated Offence against the Rules of the Prison, or shall be guilty of any greater Offence than the Governor or Keeper is empowered to punish, the said Governor or Keeper shall forthwith report the same to the Visiting Justices or One of them for the Time being, and any One such Justice, or any other Justice of the County, shall have Power to inquire upon Oath, and to determine concerning any such Matter so reported to him or them, and to order the Offender to be punished by close Confinement for any Term not exceeding One Month, or by personal Correction in the Case of Prisoners convicted of Felony, or sentenced to hard Labour.

36. The Governor or Keeper shall take care that corporal Punishment, when awarded, be given with Temper and Humanity, yet not in such a Manner as to render it either trifling or ridiculous, but with every Circumstance of Seriousness and Solemnity, and to be always applied in his Presence.

37. He shall restrain himself, and strictly require all Persons acting under him to refrain

No. 7. Rules and Regulations of the Houses of Correction in Surrey.

from all violent and angry Expressions, and by no Means to use Oaths or Curses under any Provocation whatsoever.

38. The Governor or Keeper shall give sufficient Notice to the Visiting Justices, when the Time for the Discharge of any Convicts is approaching, that such Visiting Justices may settle and determine what Portion of the Earnings of such Prisoners, or other Sum of Money, should be given to such Prisoners on their Discharge, to enable them to return to their Families or Place of Settlement, or to engage in some Employment or Occupation, and such Portion of their Earnings or Sum of Money shall be paid by the Governor or Keeper to such Prisoners accordingly.

39. The Governor or Keeper shall not permit any gaming, but shall seize and destroy all Dice, Cards, or other Instruments of gaming.

40. Upon the Death of any Prisoner, Notice thereof shall be given by the Governor or Keeper forthwith to One of the Visiting Justices, as well as to the Coroner of the District, and to the nearest Relative of the Deceased, where practicable.

41. And in case an Inquest shall be held on the Body, no Officer, nor any of the Prisoners confined in the Prison, shall be a Juror on such Inquest.

42. The Prisoners shall be instructed One Hour a Day during Three Days, and Two Hours on Sundays, in every Week, in the Houses of Correction at Brixton and Guildford, in which Prisoners are subject to compulsory Labour, and for One Hour a Day during Six Days, and for Two Hours on a Sunday, in every Week, in the House of Correction at Kingston-upon-Thames, in which Prisoners are not subjected to compulsory Labour; that such Instruction be given under the immediate Direction and Superintendence of the Chaplain of each Prison; and that the Visiting Justices be empowered, with the Advice of the Chaplain, to appoint such competent Person as they may think proper to assist in such Instruction, giving a Preference to a Turnkey or Prisoner, if any Turnkey or Prisoner shall be found competent to perform the Duty. That all the Prisoners be instructed in Reading, and that Scriptural Lessons, or any other Books to be chosen by the Chaplain or Visiting Justices, be used for that Purpose; and that such of the Prisoners as shall be selected by the Visiting Justices, with the Advice and Information of the Chaplain, be instructed in Writing.

Chaplain.

43. As much of the Hope of the Prisoners Reformation will depend on the Chaplain's zealous and conscientious as well as prudent Discharge of his Duty, he will be required to reside within Two Miles of the Prison, to perform the appointed Morning and Evening Services of the Church of England at the Hours of Ten in the Forenoon and Two in the Afternoon, and preach twice on every Sunday, and once at least on Christmas Day and Good Friday, and also to read the Morning Service at Half past Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and at the Conclusion of such Service deliver an affectionate Exhortation to the Prisoners to consider their Situation and form Resolutions of Amendment; and Prayers to be selected from the Liturgy of the Church of England by the Chaplain shall be read in the Chapel every Morning by the Chaplain, or by some other Clergyman acting for him, or in case of Emergency by the Governor, and Portions of the Scripture shall be read to the Prisoners when assembled for Instruction. That the Chaplain do attend the School immediately after the Service on Sunday Afternoon, and for not less than an Hour every Day at such other Time as the Visitors shall appoint.

44. He shall catechise and instruct such Prisoners as may be willing to receive Instruction, and shall visit the Sick frequently, and not less than Three Times a Week, and give them suitable Instruction, and administer the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to them when expedient; he shall also administer the Sacrament at least Four Times in the Year, of which Christmas Day and Good Friday shall be Two, to such Prisoners as shall be desirous, and as such Chaplain shall deem to be in a proper Frame of Mind to receive the same. He shall frequently visit every Room and Cell occupied by Prisoners, particularly those who are in solitary Confinement, and shall direct such Books to be distributed and read, and such Lessons to be taught in such Prisons, as he may deem proper for the Religious and Moral Instruction of the Prisoners, and it shall be his particular Duty to afford his spiritual Assistance to all Prisoners seriously ill, or in a dying State. He shall communicate from Time to Time to the Visiting Justices any Abuse or Impropriety which may have come to his Knowledge; and he shall keep a Journal in which he shall enter the Times of his Attendance in the Performance of his Duty, with any Observations which may occur to him in the Execution thereof, and particularly any extraordinary Diligence or Merit in any of the Prisoners; and such Journal shall be kept in the Prison, but shall regularly be laid before the Justices for their Inspection at every Quarter Session, and shall be signed by the Chairman, in proof of the same having been there produced.

45. He shall also, at every Michaelmas Quarter Session, deliver to the Justices a Statement in Writing of the Condition of the Prisoners and his Observations thereon.

46. And if any Person shall be of a Religious Persuasion differing from that of the Established Church, a Minister of such Persuasion, at the special Request of such Prisoner, shall be allowed to visit him or her at proper and reasonable Times, under such Restrictions imposed by the Visiting Justices as shall guard against the Introduction of improper Persons, and as shall prevent improper Communications.

Surgeon.

Surgeon.

No. 7. Rules and Regulations of the Houses of Correction in Surrey.

47. All Prisoners on their Admission into the Prison shall be washed in a Bath, and the Hair of the Male Prisoners cut short, and shall then be examined by the Surgeon before he or she shall be passed into the proper Ward; and no Prisoner shall be discharged from Prison if labouring under any acute or dangerous Distemper, nor until, in the Opinion of the Surgeon, such Discharge is safe, unless such Prisoner shall require to be discharged.

48. The Wearing Apparel of every Prisoner shall on his or her Entrance be fumigated and purified, if requisite, after which the same shall be returned to him or her, if the Surgeon shall see no Objection thereto; or in case of the Insufficiency of such Clothing, then other sufficient Clothing shall be furnished at the Discretion of the Visiting Justices; but no Prisoner before Trial shall be compelled to wear a Prison Dress, unless his or her own Clothes be deemed insufficient or improper, or necessary to be preserved for the Purposes of Justice; and no Prisoner who has not been convicted of Felony shall be liable to be clothed in a party-coloured Dress, but every Prison Dress shall be plain.

49. The Surgeon shall visit the Prison every Day, see every Prisoner at least twice every Week, visit all sick Prisoners in the Infirmaries every Day, and report at every Quarter Session the Condition of the Prison and the State of Health of the Prisoners under his Care. He shall keep a Journal in which he shall enter the Date of every Attendance in the Performance of his Duty, with any Observations which may occur to him in the Execution thereof, and also an Account of the Nature of the Disease, and shall sign the same with his Name; and such Journal shall be kept in the Prison, but shall regularly be laid before the Justices for their Inspection at every Quarter Session, and shall be signed by the Chairman, in proof of the same having been there produced.

50. He shall attend the Visiting Justices at all their Meetings, and suggest to them and the Governor or Keeper such Circumstances as he shall think necessary for the Promotion of Cleanliness and the Preservation of the Health of the Prisoners, and enter the same in his Minute Book.

51. A Book shall be kept in which the Chaplain and every other Officer not residing within the Prison, but required to attend on such Prison, shall regularly insert the Date of every Visit made by such Chaplain or other such Officer respectively; and every such Entry shall be signed with the Name and in the proper Handwriting of such Chaplain or other Officer respectively, and shall contain such Remarks as may be thought necessary on the Occasion of any such Visit; and the Governor or Keeper shall be responsible for the safe Custody of such Book whole, unmutilated, and unaltered, and shall at all Times produce such Book for Inspection to the Justices at every General or Quarter Session, and to the Visiting Justices, or to any other Justice of the Peace for the County.

52. The Names and Residences of the Visiting Justices shall be hung up in the Lodge, and sent to the Clerks of the several Petty Sessions.

53. The Secretary to the Visiting Justices shall give Notice to the Chaplain and Surgeon of the Meetings of the Visiting Justices, in order that they may attend such Meetings.

No. 8.

No. 8. Rules and Regulations of the House of Correction at Wakefield.

Rules and Regulations for the Government of the House of Correction at Wakefield in the West Riding of the County of York, 1834.

Visiting Justices.

The Visiting Justices may appoint such temporary Assistant or Assistants for the Purpose of instructing the Prisoners in any such Work, Manufacture, or useful Employment as they may deem it expedient to introduce into the Prison; but such Appointment shall in every Instance be restricted to a Period not exceeding Three Months, and be reported whenever made to the next Quarter Sessions.

The Visiting Justices shall record, in a Book to be kept for that Purpose, the Dates of their Visits and the Nature of their Proceedings.

See Sections 16 *and* 17 *of the* 4*th Geo.* 4., *Cap.* 64. *as to their Power to recommend Offenders to the Royal Mercy on account of good Conduct, to make Allowance to Prisoners on their Discharge, and to report Abuses to the Sessions. See also Section* 42 *as to their Power to punish refractory Prisoners.*

Duties of the Officers.

Keeper.—The Keeper shall enter or cause to be entered in a Book to be kept for that Purpose the Name, Age, and personal Description of each Prisoner, by whom committed, when received, the Place of Abode, Trade, or Occupation of each Prisoner, whether he or she can read or write, the Offence with which the Prisoner stands charged, and the Punishment, and whether he or she has been imprisoned before or not.

He shall keep or cause to be kept an Account of every Article taken from and belonging to a Prisoner on his or her Admission, which he shall carefully preserve and return to him

No. 8. Rules and Regulations of the House of Correction at Wakefield.

or her on his or her Discharge. No Letter, Parcel, or other Thing shall be delivered to a Prisoner but by the Keeper himself, or such Turnkey as he may direct.

He shall cause an exact Inventory to be taken of the Property of the Riding within the Prison, and enter the same in a Book; and he shall at least once a Quarter examine the said Property, to ascertain that no Part of it is lost, taken away, or injured by Neglect.

He shall not be absent from the Prison a Night, except on unavoidable Business relative to the Duties of the Prison, without Permission from Two Visiting Justices.

He shall appoint proper Persons (from the Prisoners) to instruct the Prisoners in their Labour, and to superintend the due Performance of it. No Prisoner shall be idle, disorderly, or disobedient during the Performance of such Labour.

He shall cause Felons, Misdemeanants, and others sentenced to hard Labour to be at work at the Tread-mill Seven Hours and a Half in each working Day from the 30th of November to the 1st of February, Nine Hours from the 1st of February to the 1st of April, Ten Hours from the 1st of April to the 30th of September, and Nine Hours from the 30th of September to the 30th of November.

See Rules 3 *and* 4 *to Section* 10 *of the* 4*th Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 64. *as to his Duty in visiting every Ward and inspecting every Cell once in every Twenty-four Hours, and keeping a Journal.*

In the Journal the Keeper shall state the Name and Offence of every Prisoner who shall misconduct himself or herself in the Prison, and the Nature, Date, and Term of the Punishment of such Offence, and by whom such Punishment was inflicted, as follows:—

Date, Prisoner's Name, Offence, Punishment, by whom inflicted.

He shall also enter any Instance of peculiar good Conduct in any Prisoner as follows:—

Date, Prisoner's Name, good Conduct, Reward (if any).

He shall enter every other Occurrence which may enable the Visiting Justices to ascertain the actual State of the Prisoners as to Behaviour or Improvement, or of the general Condition of the Gaol.

Chaplain.—The Chaplain shall meet the Visiting Justices when desired, and confer with them on Matters connected with the Discharge of his Duty.

He shall read a short Selection of Prayers in the Chapel every Day in the Week (except Sunday) at Eight o'Clock in the Morning; and on Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday he shall read the appointed Morning Service of the Church of England at Ten o'Clock in the Morning, and the Evening Service at Two o'Clock in the Afternoon; and he shall preach a Sermon after each Morning and Evening Service.

He shall examine all Books proposed to be read by the Prisoners, and shall, at the Expense of the Riding, furnish Books for the Use of the Prisoners from the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, to the Amount of 10*l.* per Annum.

See also Section 30 *of the* 4th *Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 64. *for the Duties of the Chaplain.*

A Schoolmaster may be appointed by the Visiting Justices to instruct the Prisoners in Reading, with a Salary not exceeding 1*l.* per Week.

Books, Slates, and other Requisites shall be provided for the Use of the Prisoners under the Direction of the Chaplain.

Surgeon.—The Surgeon shall attend the Prison every Day, and shall visit the Sick himself; and in case of his Sickness or unavoidable Absence depute his Partner, or some other practising Surgeon of Wakefield, to act in his Place.

If any contagious Distemper shall make its Appearance, he shall immediately make known its Nature to the Governor, and deliver written Directions for preventing its Diffusion. He shall attend immediately, on Notice from the Keeper that any Prisoner is ill. He shall enter in his Journal his Order for the Removal of any sick Prisoner to the Infirmary, and therein state what Diet and Regimen such Prisoner is to have.

He may order Bread and Milk for a Female Prisoner who has a Child, and also for the Child, when he thinks it necessary.

See also Rule 17 *of the* 10*th Section of the Act of the* 4*th Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 64.

Matron.—The Matron shall search every Female Prisoner on Admission, and shall cause her to be thoroughly washed, and her Hair to be cut.

She shall keep an Account of every Article taken from a Prisoner on her Admission, which she shall carefully preserve, and return to her on her Discharge. She shall invariably attend Divine Service with the Female Prisoners. She shall keep a Journal, in which she shall enter such Instances of Misbehaviour or good Conduct in the Prisoners under her Superintendence as she shall deem worthy of Notice; this Journal shall be open to the Inspection of the Ladies visiting the Female Prisoners, and shall be laid before the Visiting Justices when they visit.

Taskmaster.—It shall be the Taskmaster's Duty to enforce the Labour of Prisoners sentenced to it, to encourage Industry among other Prisoners, and to preserve Regularity and Order among them all when at work.

The Taskmaster shall keep a List of the Prisoners at work, and how employed; and shall, under the Keeper's Directions, purchase such Materials, Machinery, or Tools as are required for the Trades or different Kinds of Labour directed by the Visiting Justices to be carried forward in the Prison. He shall likewise superintend the Work of the Prisoners, keep an Account of the Work done, balancing the Outlay for raw Materials, Tools, &c. against the Articles manufactured, and selling (with the Privity and Approbation of the Governor) the manu-

No. 8. Rules and Regulations of the House of Correction at Wakefield.

manufactured Goods, keeping the Account of the whole in such Manner that the general Profit and Loss may be seen, and of the Work of each Prisoner apart, so far as the same can be done, that each may be remunerated in proportion to the Work he does.

The Taskmaster shall also have Charge of the Tools, &c., giving them out to the Prisoners in the Morning, and receiving them from them in the Evening at the Close of Work, and taking care to put them in a secure Place during the Night.

His Book or Books of Account shall at all Times be open to the Inspection of the Visiting Justices, and shall, with the Vouchers, be delivered to the Justices at every General Quarter Sessions.

If any Prisoner be disorderly, idle, or disobedient in the Time of Work, the Taskmaster shall make it known to the Governor on the first Opportunity.

Keeping Silence in the Gaol, and Duties of Wardsmen and Wardswomen.

No Prisoner shall be permitted on any Account, or under any Pretence, to speak to or to hold any Communication with any other Prisoner without special Leave for that Purpose first obtained from the Governor.

The Keeper may order any Prisoner guilty of a Breach of this Rule to be deprived of his or her Supper, or placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days.

In order to enforce the above Rule, the Keeper shall appoint as Wardsmen One Prisoner in each Ward or Work-room for the Male Prisoners, or more, if so directed by the Visiting Justices.

The Wardsmen shall be selected from such of the Prisoners as are most orderly and best qualified for the Purpose, and may have an Addition of Half a Pound of Bread and Half a Pound of Beef to their Diet daily. They shall be excused treading on the Mill, or any other Labour. They may be displaced for Misconduct by the Keeper.

The Prisoners appointed to be Wardsmen for the unconvicted Felons may be convicted Felons, and a Wardsman for the unconvicted Misdemeanants may be a convicted Misdemeanant; provided that in such Cases the Keeper shall not make such Appointments, unless with the express Consent of One of the Visiting Justices being first obtained.

See Rule 6, *Section* 10, *of 4th Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 64, *and the Proviso.*

Wardsmen shall attend to the Cleanliness of every Part of the Wards and Airing-yards committed to their Care, and to the Maintenance of Decency and good Order therein, and be responsible for the same.

They shall be entitled to such Share of their Earnings as the Rate of their Classes shall respectively prescribe.

They shall not receive any Fee or Gratuity on any Account whatsoever, except such Allowances as are authorized by the Rules and Regulations of the Prison, subject to the Modification of the Visiting Justices or the Keeper.

The Matron shall appoint, with the Consent of the Keeper, and subject to the same Restrictions as before mentioned with respect to the Keeper, such Female Prisoners to act as Wardswomen as she may consider the most orderly and best qualified for that Purpose. The Wardswomen shall perform similar Duties, and be under similar Restrictions to those prescribed in the foregoing Rules for Wardsmen; they shall also, under the Direction of the Matron, assist in superintending the different Employments carried on by the Female Prisoners, and perform such other Duties as the Matron may see fit to entrust them with, and she shall have Power to make such Allowances to the Wardswomen as are made to the Wardsmen.

General Rules.

No Prisoner shall be admitted into the Gaol after Ten o'Clock at Night without the express Direction in Writing of a Magistrate, nor during Divine Service in the Gaol on Sunday.

Prisoners committed for Trial shall (with their own Consent) be employed in any Work or Labour except the Tread-mill.

Prisoners confined for the Nonpayment of Penalties under the Revenue Laws, or for the Nonpayment of any other Fine or Penalty, shall be confined in the Ward appointed for convicted Misdemeanants.

See Section 12, 5 *Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 85.

No Prisoner shall make any disorderly Noise, or hold Communication with or see Visitors or Strangers in any Manner not allowed by the Rules; nor damage or disfigure the Ceilings, Walls, or Fixtures; nor commit any Nuisance in the Chapel, or other Rooms or Yards occupied by the Prisoners; nor wilfully deface, waste, damage, secrete, or destroy any Clothing, Bedding, Furniture, Books, Materials, or any Goods belonging to or within the Prison, or belonging to any Prisoner; nor be remiss or negligent in obeying any reasonable or lawful Directions of any Magistrate or Officer; nor behave with Disrespect to any officiating Minister, or to the Surgeon, Keeper, or other Officer, or to any Magistrate; nor gamble with, abuse, threaten, ill-treat, or defraud any other Prisoners; nor receive or demand any Money or Benefit in the Nature of Garnish. Any Person so offending shall be guilty of a Disobedience of the Rules of the Prison, and may be punished accordingly.

No fermented or spirituous Liquors shall be admitted into the Prison, nor shall any Prisoner be permitted to drink any without the express Order of the Surgeon, and then only in such

No. 8. Rules and Regulations of the House of Correction at Wakefield.

such Quantity and of such Kind as he may direct; nor shall Snuff or Tobacco in any Shape be used in the Gaol.

Where any Prisoner shall be punished by the Keeper for a Breach of the Rules, the Keeper shall not give out to such Prisoner in any Case more than One Pound nor less than Half a Pound of Bread per Diem.

No Parcel or Letter shall be delivered to or sent by any Prisoner until they have been inspected by the Keeper; and in case any improper Communication be attempted to be made to or by any Prisoner, the Keeper shall withhold such Parcel or Letter until he have the Direction of a Visiting Justice thereon, who may dispose of the same as he shall think right.

Each Prisoner shall, at the Time of locking up the Prison, present himself or herself in the Yard, or at the Door of the Cell, or elsewhere as the Keeper may appoint, and answer to his or her Name when called by any Person appointed by the Keeper, and forthwith retire to his or her Cell, and therein remain in perfect Silence, on pain of being deprived of his or her Supper, or confined in a solitary Cell on Bread and Water for any Time not exceeding Three Days, at the Discretion of the Keeper.

See also Section 41, 4 *Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 64. *as to the Power of the Keeper to punish certain Offences.*

No Prisoner shall sell or dispose of his Victuals to any other Prisoner, nor shall he part with any of his Clothes.

Cleanliness and Health.

The Prison shall be lime-washed once in every Quarter at least.

One or more Prisoners shall be appointed to sweep or wash every Room and Ward in the Prison every Day; the Prisoners shall sweep their sleeping Cells daily; and all the Rooms, Wards, sleeping Cells, and Passages shall be well and sufficiently washed or cleaned once in every Week from Michaelmas to Lady Day, and twice in every Week from Lady Day to Michaelmas, by the Prisoners appointed by the Keeper.

When the Prisoners leave their sleeping Cells in the Morning, the Windows and Doors of the Cells shall be opened, and the Bed Clothes be sufficiently aired by each Prisoner.

Every Prisoner, before going to the Chapel in the Morning, shall wash his Hands and Face and comb his Hair, nor shall any Prisoner receive his Breakfast until he has so cleaned himself. Every Prisoner shall be provided with Half an Ounce of Soap and Two clean Shirts every Week.

Clean Straw shall be provided for all the Beds in the Prison (if they be in constant Use) at least once in Six Months; each Cell shall be provided with a Bed and Chamber Pot, and each Day-room shall be provided with a Mop, Broom, Bucket, Wash-bowl, and Towel.

The Prisoners shall be shaved twice a Week, and shall on their Entrance into Prison, and at other Times when deemed necessary, have their Hair cut, and shall be thoroughly washed in every Part of the Body once a Week.

All Prisoners before Trial, who shall not be willing to receive the Prison Allowance, shall be allowed to provide for themselves ½ lb. of Butcher's Meat, 1 lb. of Bread, 1 Quart of Milk, and 1 lb. of Vegetables per Diem, and no more.

Measures, Scales, and Weights legally stamped shall be furnished to the Keeper for the Use of any of the Prisoners, between the Hours of Twelve and One daily, for the examining any Articles supplied to them.

No Prisoner receiving the Prison Allowance shall be permitted to receive from his or her Friends any Milk, or other Description of Food.

Prisoners before Trial, who cannot maintain themselves, and shall refuse to work, shall have only 3 Pints of Oatmeal Pottage and 1½ lb. of Bread per Diem, equally divided at Breakfast, Dinner, and Supper; but if any such Prisoner who shall have worked in the Morning, and had the usual Diet, shall refuse to work in the Afternoon, being able to work, he shall have no Supper.

Clothing and Bedding.

Every Prisoner shall be provided with a Mattress filled with Straw, Two Blankets, and Two Coverlets.

The convicted Felons shall be clothed in a party-coloured Dress, and all other Prisoners in a plain Dress.

See also Sections 17 *and* 18 *of* 4 *Geo.* 4. *Cap.* 64.

Religious Duties and Instruction of Prisoners.

The Books to be read to and by the Prisoners, and the Time to be allotted to the Religious and Moral Instruction of the Prisoners, shall be determined by the Visiting Justices, in communication with the Chaplain.

No Books, Newspapers, or Pamphlets shall be admitted into the Gaol, except such as the Chaplain and Visiting Magistrates shall deem proper for the Religious and Moral Instruction of the Prisoners.

Distribution

No. 8. Rules and Regulations of the House of Correction at Wakefield.

Distribution of Time.

Every Prisoner shall rise on the Bell being rung at Half past Seven o'Clock from the 30th of November to the 1st of February, at Six o'Clock from the 1st of February to the 1st of April, at Half past five o'Clock from the 1st of April to the 30th of September, and at Six o'Clock from the 30th of September to the 30th of November. One Third of the Prisoners shall attend Chapel every Morning on Working Days, at Eight o'Clock, throughout the Year.

The Prisoners shall breakfast at Half past Eight o'Clock, dine at Twelve o'Clock, and sup at Six o'Clock, if the Day-light will permit; if not, at Dusk.

The Prisoners shall be locked up in their sleeping Cells immediately after Supper.

Prisoners Earnings.

All Prisoners employed as Weavers, Combers, Shoemakers, Painters, and Joiners shall receive only One Eighth of their Earnings; and all convicted Prisoners employed on the Tread-wheel, or in any other Way, shall receive One Fourth of their Earnings, and unconvicted Prisoners One Half.

Visiting of Prisoners.

Relations and Friends of the Prisoners shall be allowed to visit them in the Visiting-room between the Hours of One and Three every Day but Sunday, except in the Case of convicted Prisoners, to whom no Person shall be admitted more frequently than once a Month during the same Hours.

Visitors shall not be admitted to see any Prisoner on Sunday, nor to see any Prisoner confined in a refractory Cell.

A licensed Dissenting Minister, Roman Catholic Priest, or Quaker, at any Prisoner's Request, may ministerially visit him or her on Sunday or on any other Day, and for any reasonable Time, at Hours not inconvenient.

Any Attorney or Solicitor, or his articled Clerk, may have Access to or private Conference with any Prisoner for Trial, on making Request to the Keeper.

If the Keeper, or such Person as may be appointed to attend the Visiting-room, shall observe any improper Communication between the Prisoners and those who visit them, the latter shall be dismissed immediately, or proceeded against as the Case may require.

If the Gaoler refuse Admittance, the Visiting Justices may examine each particular Case, and give special Order for Admittance, if they think fit.

All former Rules to be discharged.

West Riding of Yorkshire.—At the Christmas General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden by Adjournment at Wakefield the Third Day of March 1834, the foregoing Rules were examined and approved of by us the undersigned Magistrates:—

J. A. Rhodes. J. Ingham.
Josh. Scott. C. J. Bradling.
Geo. Banks. J. Holdsworth.
J. Armytage.

We have read the above Rules, and we hereby certify that we do not see any thing contrary to Law therein.

W. E. Taunton.
E. H. Alderson.

York Assizes, March 27, 1834.

No. 9.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Questions sent out by the Committee of the Prison Discipline Society to the several Gaols and Houses of Correction, with the Answers thereto.

Sir, 18, Aldermanbury, London, March 1835.

The Committee of the Society for the Improvement of Prison Discipline are engaged in preparing a Report on the present State of the Gaols and Houses of Correction in this Country. Being anxious to procure Intelligence from the most correct Sources, they are reluctantly compelled to trespass on the Attention of the Magistracy and the Governors of Prisons; and relying on your friendly Disposition towards the Society, I am to request the Favour of your obtaining for the Committee the desired Information in regard to the County Gaol at

I annex a List of Questions on the several Points, the Answers to which the Committee will highly esteem. They will feel further obliged by any other Facts or Suggestions which you may deem calculated to promote generally the Improvement of Prison Discipline.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

To Visiting Magistrate, or to the Gaoler.

Samuel Hoare, Chairman of the Committee.

No. 9.
Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

QUESTIONS.

1.—What Alteration has taken place in the Construction of the Prison in the Year 1834?

2.—What Change has occurred in the Discipline of the Prison during the same Period?

3.—What is the Number of the Day-rooms, and to what Classes and what Number of Prisoners are they appropriated?

4.—What is the Number of the sleeping Rooms and Cells, including those for Debtors?

5.—How many Prisoners are confined in One Apartment at Night?

6.—Do the Prisoners hold any Intercourse with each other when associated at work, at their Meals, taking Exercise, in their Day-rooms, in their Night Apartments, or at any other Time?

7.—What Steps are taken to prevent this Intercourse?

8.—Is the Act of one Prisoner speaking to another visited by Punishment? if so, what is the Description of Punishment?

9.—If the Tread-wheel Labour is adopted, what Number of Steps is usually taken in a Minute, and what is the Height of each Step?

10.—What is the Purpose to which the Power of the Tread-wheel is applied, and is the Machinery provided with any Means of regulating and exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed?

11.—Is the Tread-wheel fitted up with separate Compartments by which one Prisoner is prevented from seeing another, or communicating in any Way when on the Wheel?

12.—Is the Act of a Prisoner looking back when on the Wheel punished as an Offence?

13.—When and in what Manner does the Prisoner rest when he comes off the Wheel, and when resting can he see any other Prisoner?

14.—Where do the Prisoners take their Meals?

15.—How many Prisoners were placed in solitary Confinement in the last Year, agreeably to Sentence?

16.—What was the longest Period of Confinement, and what was the Offence of the Prisoner?

17.—Had the Prisoners any Occupation in Solitude?

18.—How frequently are they visited by the Governor and Chaplain?

19.—For what Period do they leave their Cells to take Exercise, and where do they take Exercise?

20.—Were any injurious Effects produced on the Mind or Health of any Prisoner by Solitude?

21.—Has the Solitude produced any beneficial Effect?

22.—What is the longest Period in the last Year in which a Prisoner has been confined before Trial, and for what Offence? If guilty, what was his Sentence?

23.—How many have been confined for Three Months or upwards before Trial?

24.—Is a Prisoner of any Description allowed to receive Food of any Kind beyond the Prison Ration?

25.—Is a convicted Prisoner allowed to receive Visits from his Friends, and how often?

26.—Is a convicted Prisoner allowed to write to or receive Letters from his Friends? if so, at what Intervals?

27.—Has any Arrangement been made for sending Prisoners committed within a local Jurisdiction to the County Gaol or House of Correction, either before or after Trial?

28.—Would the Offer of providing a free Passage to a penal Colony, where Employment could be immediately obtained, be likely to be accepted by adult Offenders upon their Discharge from Prison?

29.—If an Institution were formed in London, under the Patronage of His Majesty's Government, to facilitate the Emigration to a penal Colony of Offenders liberated in a State of Destitution from the Gaols throughout England, would such a Measure be acceptable generally to the Prisoners, and would such an Institution be likely to receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy?

30.—Would an Institution of this Nature, designed expressly for the Emigration of juvenile Offenders (discharged destitute) to a penal Colony, where they would be indentured for a Term to Settlers, be acceptable to them and their Parents or Friends, and would such an Institution receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy?

ANSWERS

305

ANSWERS

received from

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society and Answers thereto.

Bedford County Gaol - - Page 75
Berks, Reading County Prisons - - 76
—— Abingdon County House of Correction 77
Chester Castle County Gaol - - 78
Devon, Exeter County Prisons - - *ib.*
Durham County Prisons - - - 79
Essex, Ilford County House of Correction - 80
—— Newport County House of Correction 81
Gloucester, Horsley House of Correction - *ib.*
—— Northleach House of Correction 82
—— Lawfords Gate House of Correction - - - - - 83
Hants, Winchester County House of Correction - - - - - 84
Hertford County Gaol and House of Correction - - - - - 85
Huntingdon County Gaol - - - *ib.*
Kent, Canterbury County Gaol and House of Correction - - - - - 86
Lancaster Castle County Gaol - - 87
Leicester County Gaol - - - 88
Lincoln Castle County Gaol - - - 89
—— Folkingham County House of Correction - - - - *ib.*
—— Louth County House of Correction 90
—— Kirton County House of Correction 91
—— Spilsby County House of Correction *ib.*
Monmouth County Gaol and House of Correction - - - - 92
—— Usk County House of Correction 93
Norfolk County Gaol - - - 94
—— Walsingham County House of Correction - - - - 95
—— Swaffham County House of Correction - - - - 96
—— Norwich City Gaol and House of Correction - - - *ib.*
Northampton County Gaol and House of Correction - - - - 97
Oxford County Gaol and House of Correction - - - - Page 98
Shropshire County Gaol - - - *ib.*
Somerset, Shepton Mallett County House of Correction - - - - 99
Suffolk, Woodbridge County House of Correction - - - - - *ib.*
Surrey County Gaol - - - 100
—— Brixton County House of Correction 101
—— Guildford County House of Correction - - - - 102
—— Kingston-on-Thames House of Correction - - - - 103
Sussex, Horsham County Gaol - - 104
—— Petworth County House of Correction - - - - *ib.*
—— Lewes County House of Correction 105
Warwick County House of Correction - 107
Westmoreland, Appleby County Prison - *ib.*
Wilts, Salisbury, Fisherton County Gaol - 108
—— Marlborough County Bridewell - *ib.*
York, Wakefield House of Correction - 109

Devon, Exeter City Gaol and House of Correction - - - - - *ib.*
Hants, Portsmouth Borough Gaol and House of Correction - - - - 110
Leicester Borough Gaol and House of Correction - - - - - 111
Warwick, Coventry City and County Gaol - 112
Yorkshire, Hull Town Gaol and House of Correction - - - - 113

Kent, Sandwich Town Gaol and House of Correction - - - - 114
Lincoln, Boston Borough Gaol and House of Correction - - - - *ib.*
Norfolk, Yarmouth Town Gaol - - 115

Bedford.

No. 1.—Answers of Mr. John Tregenza, Gaoler of Bedford County Gaol.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Seven Day-rooms for Male and Female Debtors, Male and Females for Trial, Convicts under Sentence of Transportation, for Want of Sureties, Females under Conviction.

4th.—Fifty in the Gaol and old House of Correction, and Fifty in new House of Correction.

5th.—If the Number of Prisoners exceed the Number of Cells, Three in a Cell.

6th.—No Intercourse when at Work, Meals, or Exercise.

7th.—An Officer is always present with the Workmen.

8th.—Yes; close Confinement for a short Time; if repeated, longer.

9th.—Forty Steps; Seven Inches and a Half in One Minute.

10th.—Until January 1835 the Mill Labour was applied to grinding Corn, but now the Power is brought to work against Friction. This was done to cut off all Communication from Persons who brought Corn to be ground at the Prisons.

11th.—Yes.

12th.—Yes, if repeated.

13th.—No Rest during working Hours. The Men off the Wheel walk round a Ring at a slow Pace until the Notice is given by a Bell for Change, and this is done in the following Order: A. is always the first to go on, B. will then become A., and so on. The one that comes off falls in the Rear of the Number in the Ring, and by changing as above becomes again A.

14th.—In separate Boxes.

15th.—Ten.

16th.—Two Days; refusing to work and other Misconduct.

17th.—None.

18th.—Once every Day.

19th.—Removed to Night Cell.

20th.—None.

21st.—I think it is much dreaded; and I will venture to give my Opinion, after Twenty Years Practice in Prisons, that if, for instance, a Prisoner was sentenced to (say) One Week during his Imprisonment to solitary Confinement, I would divide it in the following Manner, by taking Ten Days, viz. Two in, One out, Two more in, Two out, then Three in, and Discharge, without returning or even seeing another Prisoner; these short Periods would

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Bedford.

would not hurt or be injurious to Health in like Manner as very long Periods in close Confinement. Besides, when a Man has been locked up for a Day, and knows that he has to return to it again for Two Days, it is much worse, and still more so to return a Third Time for Three Days. I have always found, and have heard from Prisoners also, that the Ten Days thus spent is dreaded much more than if they spent a Week's Confinement at once in Solitude.

22d.—Four Months; Burglary; transported for Life.

23d.—Four others for Three Months and upwards.

24th.—No Prisoner receiving County Allowance; but Prisoners before Trial may support themselves if able.

25th.—Only by Certificate of Surgeon in dangerous Illness.

26th.—No Restrictions as to writing or receiving Letters.

27th.—I am not aware of any.

28th.—I think not in this County, being inland; it might, in great Towns and manufacturing Districts.

29th & 30th.—I think not.

JOHN TREGENZA, Gaoler.

Reading.

No. 2.—ANSWERS of Mr. EDWARD HACKETT, Keeper of READING County Prisons, Berks.

1st.—None.

2d.—Silence has been more enforced.

3d.—Five Day-rooms appropriated to Debtors (Male); Four Day-rooms, with separate Yards, for Gaol Prisoners, viz. Capital Convicts, Assizes, Sessions Felony, Sessions Misdemeanors. In House of Correction, Four Day-wards, with One large Yard, appropriated to Felons, Misdemeanors of the worst Class, Vagrants, and Soldiers; but One Class at the Time allowed in the Yard for Exercise, and then under the Inspection of a Turnkey; also Three Day-wards, with separate Yards, for Boys and Prisoners for minor Offences who have not been known ever to have been before within the Walls of a Prison. In the Female Department there are Five Day-wards, with separate Yards, appropriated as follows: One to Female Debtors; the Remainder to, unconvicted, One; Vagrants, One; Misdemeanors, One; convicted of Felony, One; making a Total of Twenty-one Day-wards or Rooms. The Number of Prisoners varies daily; sometimes one Class of Prisoners may be Eighteen, on particular Occasions more, at other Times not more than Three to Eight or Ten, but on the Average I should think about Twelve in the Felony and Misdemeanor Wards; Vagrants less; Boys about Four or Five; Females, generally speaking, a very small Number; Debtors from One to Three; and the Trial Wards in the Gaol Department are sometimes nearly empty and at other Times very full, being Twenty in a Ward for Felony, and at the same Time not more than Three or Four for Misdemeanors. A Return will accompany this, that you may see the different Class of Prisoners, with the Number confined from Michaelmas 1833 to Michaelmas 1834, and also, each Quarter since that Period, the Number in Custody prior to each Sessions. (N.B.—Several of the Rooms are about to be converted into single Cells.)

4th.—Sixty-four.

5th.—In the Cells One; Rooms (vary according to Number in Custody) from Three to Eight.

6th.—Not while at work, and prevented as much as possible at all Times.

7th.—The Vigilance of the Turnkeys.

8th.—It is solitary Confinement upon low Diet.

9th.—Forty-eight Steps a Minute; Seven Inches.

10th.—Grinding Corn, sometimes pumping Water at the same Time. None, but is in contemplation.

11th.—No, but intended to be.

12th.—Prevented as much as possible, but have never been punished.

13th.—By sitting down; can see all in the same Wheel-house.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th.—Twelve.

16th.—Two Females for Fourteen Days, for stealing One Block of Ribbon from a Shop, and Two Boys the same Period for stealing Money.

17th.—None.

18th.—Daily.

19th.—Never.

20th.—None whatever.

21st.—Very great.

22d.—Two from 19th August 1834 to 28th February 1835; for Highway Robbery. Death recorded. Received their commuted Sentences the 19th of April; transported for Life.

23d.—Twenty.

24th.—Debtors and Prisoners before Conviction, if they support themselves fully.

25th.—Yes, but no particular Time.

26th.—Yes, at all Times.

27th.—Constables bring them, and Arrangement has been made with the Borough of New Windsor and Reading for their Reception.

28th.—I think not.

29th.—It

29th.—It would receive the Co-operation of the Magistrates, and is very desirable.
30th.—It would. EDWARD HACKETT, Keeper.

Examined and Approved by the Visiting Magistrates.
MORIS XEMENES.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

N.B.—The Visiting Magistrates beg leave to state that it is their Opinion, if after Second or Third Conviction of Offences against the Laws the Persons again offending could be compelled to serve His Majesty in the Colonies it would have a good Effect, and most considerably lessen the Number of Criminals. MORIS XEMENES.
JOHN BLAGRAVE.

Reading.

No. 3.—ANSWERS of Mr. SAMUEL WALKER, Keeper of ABINGDON County House of Correction.

Abingdon.

1st.—The only particular Alteration which took place in 1834 was the Introduction of Tread-wheel Labour in lieu of the Hand Crank, when the old Building was taken down and a new one erected, so as to allow of the Mill being placed outside of the Prison, to prevent the carrying in and out of Corn, Flour, &c. as heretofore. Several other Alterations had taken place the Year previous, an Account of which is given in another Place.

2d.—The only Change in the Discipline of the Prison during the same Period was that of employing the Prisoners at the Tread-wheel (Gas having been introduced into the Wheel-house) in the Winter Season for Eight Hours, being the greatest Number of Hours allowed by the Gaol Act fot the Employment of the Prisoners at that Season of the Year.

3d.—The Number of Day-rooms is Three; One for all Classes of Male Prisoners before Trial, One for all Classes of Female Prisoners before Trial, and One for Females convicted.

4th.—The Number of separate sleeping Cells is Forty; Debtors, none.

5th.—One when the Number does not exceed Forty; when they are more, which frequently happens in Winter, they sleep Three and Four together in some of the Cells; but Care is always taken not to allow any to sleep together who are known to have been in this or any other Prison before.

6th.—No; at no Time are they allowed to speak to each other.

7th.—The Prisoners, when at Labour or Exercise, are always under the Eye of a Turnkey. When a Prisoner first comes into Prison, if he cannot read, the following Order is read to him, which is likewise hung up in different Parts of the Prison:—"Abingdon House of Correction.—Ordered by the Visiting Justices that the Keeper do strictly enforce Silence at all Times throughout the whole of the Day-wards, Workshops, Airing-yards, and Cells of the Prison."

8th.—Yes; either by solitary Confinement from One to Three Days, according to the Character of the Offender, or by the Loss of the next Allowance of Gruel or Broth, for which Water is substituted. Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour are usually treated in the former Manner, and those at the Tread-wheel in the latter.

9th.—The Number of Steps usually taken in a Minute is Forty-eight; Height of each Step, Eight Inches.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied to the Purpose of grinding and dressing Corn. The Machinery is not provided with any Means of regulating and exhibiting the Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—No. A Turnkey is in constant Attendance to prevent any Communication between the Prisoners.

12th.—It has not hitherto.

13th.—The Prisoner rests when he has worked along the Wheel, being provided with a Stool, and can see all the other Prisoners in the Wheel-house, both at labour and at rest.

14th.—The convicted Male Prisoners take their Meals in their Cells.

15th.—Two.

16th.—One Week. Stealing Money.

17th.—Never.

18th.—Generally about every other Day by the Governor, and twice a Week by the Chaplain.

19th.—Only for a few Minutes after each Meal, previous to going to labour, in a Yard fronting the Governor's Sitting-room (except on Sundays), when they have Two Hours Exercise, Weather permitting. Prisoners before Trial spend the whole Day in their Ward and Yard when they behave orderly.

20th.—I have never observed a Case where it has.

21st.—Yes, in Ninety-nine Cases out of a Hundred.

22d.—Nearly Four Months. Stealing Tools. Six Calendar Months hard Labour.

23d.—Nine.

24th.—No; only in case of Sickness when ordered by the Surgeon, or Prisoners before Trial, who wholly maintain themselves.

25th.—Yes, once a Month.

26th.—Yes, once a Month, if not visited in that Period, unless in the Case of Prisoners imprisoned for Nonpayment of Fines, when they are allowed to write once for the Money.

27th.—Yes; the Borough of Abingdon commit their Prisoners here both before and after Trial.

 28th.—Yes,

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

28th.—Yes, I think it would in some Cases.

29th.—Yes, I think this would also be acceptable in some Instances to the Prisoners.

30th.—This Measure would be acceptable, no Doubt, in some Instances; but this would not be the Case where their Friends encourage them in Crime, but it would have a good Effect in removing them from their old Associates, whom otherwise they must join again, and return to their old Habits.

SAMUEL WALKER, Keeper.

April 1835.

Chester Castle

No. 4.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN DUNSTAN, Constable of CHESTER CASTLE County Gaol.

1st.—A new Building, containing Male and Female sleeping Cells, Day-rooms, Hospitals, Wash-houses; Laundry has been erected, not yet occupied.

2d.—None.

3d.—Twelve Day-rooms, including those in the new Building; all Classes of Prisoners; the Number of Prisoners varies daily; the Average for last Year was 97.

4th.—Old, 56; new, 52, (3) Debtors, 12; (1 & 2) Debtors, 2; Females, 1; Total, 123. This includes the new Ranges.

5th.—If the Number of Prisoners does not exceed that of the Cells, all sleep separately; it on the contrary, the Act of Parliament is strictly adhered to.

6th.—Prisoners are not allowed to speak whilst at work; the general silent System is now under the Consideration of the Magistrates for Adoption.

7th.—Answered in No. 6.

8th.—If whilst at work, Suspension of Food or solitary Confinement, according to the Degree of Offence.

9th.—No Tread-wheel.

14th.—In their respective Day-rooms.

15th.—Three.

16th.—Forty-two Days for Felony.

17th.—The solitary Cells are supplied with a Bible, Testament, and Religious Tracts. No Work.

18th.—Daily by the Governor, unless absent; the Chaplain visits according to Circumstances, but always every other Day.

19th.—One Hour per Day, under the immediate Inspection of a Turnkey.

20th.—No, nor do I believe that solitary Confinement, as inflicted in this Country, can have that severe mental Effect of which so much has been said. I speak from an Experience of upwards of Twenty Years. As regards their bodily Health, every Attention is paid by the Medical Attendant, who visits them daily; in One or Two Instances has some Portion of the solitary Confinement been remitted in consequence of bodily Ailment only.

21st.—It always produces a good Effect when inflicted for Breach of Discipline in the Gaol; but many return to Gaol who have undergone this Species of Punishment, and this will always be the Case unless something is done to ensure Employment on Discharge from Prison.

22d.—Four Months; Housebreaking; transported for Life.

23d.—Twenty-two.

24th.—All for Trial may receive Food, under the proper Restrictions; nothing allowed to the convicted beyond the Gaol Ration.

25th.—Once a Month.

26th.—At any Time.

27th.—No.

28th.—No Answer can be given, as the Question has never been asked any Prisoner hitherto.

29th.—I do not doubt but that this Plan would meet with every Support.

30th.—This Point never having been mooted, nothing accurate can be stated; but if once thought of seriously, it shall have every Attention paid to it by me. Such a System is highly desirable.

18th April 1835. JOHN DUNSTAN, Constable.

Exeter.

No. 5.—ANSWERS of MR. WM. COLE, Governor of EXETER County Prisons, Devon.

1st.—Very little Alteration; merely a Cell or Two altered for solitary Purposes.

2d.—An almost perfect System of Silence established.

3d.—Ten for Males and Four for Females in the Gaol, but there are generally Two or Three of the former vacant, and One of the latter; Eight for Males and Four for Females in the House of Correction; Five of the Eight only are used as Day-rooms, except for cooking, as the Felons and Vagrants take their Meals in their Cells, and also are in their Cells at all Times when not at work; One of the Four for Females generally vacant.

4th.—Ninety-six Cells in the Gaol for Males, and Seventy-nine for Females, including those occupied by the Females belonging to the House of Correction; Seventy-two Cells only for Males in the House of Correction. Average Number of Prisoners about Ninety, sometimes 120.

5th.—One

329

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Exeter.

5th.—One only when the Numbers in the Prisons will admit of it; but this is never the Case in the House of Correction, except as to Felons and Vagrants, and those not at all Times.

6th.—In the Gaol the Prisoners are mostly committed for Trial, and transferred to the House of Correction after Conviction. They sleep in separate Cells, and are kept as silent as possible. In the House of Correction the Prisoners hold no Intercourse at their Work or their Meals, as to the Felons and Vagrants; but the Misdemeanants, in consequence of their Numbers, cannot be perfectly prevented; but Silence is rigidly enforced as far as practicable, and punished when broken.

7th.—The Felons and Vagrants in the House of Correction carry their Meals separately to their Cells, and bring their Plates, &c. back when they return to their Work. The Misdemeanants, as I have before observed, still use their Day-rooms.

8th.—They are punished for talking by being locked up in dark Cells for Periods, according to their Offences, with Bread and Water only.

9th.—Forty-eight Steps in a Minute; Height of each Step, Seven Inches and a Half.

10th.—The Tread-mill grinds Corn, but it does not exhibit the Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—There is no Separation between the Prisoners on the Wheel.

12th.—Looking back or talking is reprimanded, and, if repeated, punished.

13th.—When a Prisoner comes off the Wheel he sits down in perfect Silence till it comes to his Turn to resume his Work, or in cold Weather walks about.

14th.—As I have before stated, the convicted Felons and Vagrants take their Meals in the Cells, all other Prisoners in their Day-rooms.

15th.—One hundred and eleven.

16th.—One Month at one Time; sometimes repeated. Felony.

17th.—No Occupation except reading Books supplied by the Chaplain.

18th.—By the Governor at uncertain Periods, and not often, lest his Visits should interfere with their Solitude; by the Chaplain Three Times a Week.

19th.—The Prisoners who are confined to their Cells take no other Exercise than working at the Tread-mill or other Labour during the working Hours.

20th.—I have never discovered any injurious Effect produced on the Mind by Solitude; the Periods I do not consider have been long enough to have any such Effect.

21st.—It is rather difficult to ascertain this Point. I do not think we have quite so many repeat their Visits as heretofore; but this might in some Degree be attributed to the almost Certainty of Transportation under Sir Robert Peel's Act, which took place a very short Time before our solitary System commenced, or it may be attributable to both.

22d.—Eight Prisoners confined Seven Months before Trial, One of whom only was convicted, and that One transported as a repeated Utterer of counterfeit Coin.

23d.—Thirty.

24th.—Prisoners before Trial are allowed to receive occasionally Food from their Friends, but to a very small Extent; and Smugglers support themselves entirely on 4½*d.* per Day, allowed them by the Board of Customs, receiving no Allowance from the County; other convicted Prisoners are confined to the Prison Allowance only.

25th.—Not without a written Order from a Magistrate.

26th.—The convicted Prisoners receive Letters from their Friends whenever they are sent, but are allowed to write to them once a Month only, unless on very special Occasions, at the Discretion of the Keeper.

27th.—Those Boroughs who contribute to the County Rate send Prisoners in common at the Expense of the County; those that do not pay County Rates send them at the Expense of the respective Boroughs, and pay for their Diet.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—I have no Means of answering these Queries with any Degree of Certainty, not having heard the Subject mentioned before; but I am inclined to think that very few would avail themselves of the Offer.

WM. COLE, Governor.

No. 6.—ANSWERS of P. FRUSHARD, Governor of DURHAM County Prisons.

Durham.

1st.—None.

2d.—None in 1834, but the silent System during Work Hours is now in Practice.

3d.—Classification under the 4th Geo. 4. is observed, but the Number of Prisoners in each Class necessarily varies.

4th.—Forty-eight sleeping Rooms and Cells (including Debtors).

5th.—Master Debtors Two, Poor Debtors from Three to Ten, other Prisoners from Three to Thirty.

6th.—Not during Work Hours or at Exercise, but they do in the Day-rooms and in the Night Apartments.

7th.—None.

8th.—Yes, if during the Work Hours; the Punishment is either solitary Confinement or Work on Bread and Water.

9th.—Forty-five Steps in Summer and Forty-eight in Winter; each Step Seven Inches.

10th.—Not applied to any Purpose. It is provided with Bates' Gyrometer.

11th & 12th.—No.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Durham.

13th.—The Prisoner either walks or sits down in the Mill Apartment, of which there are Four.
14th.—In the Day-rooms.
15th.—Twenty-seven.
16th.—One Month, for Felony.
17th.—No.
18th.—Very generally.
19th.—They are not permitted to leave their Cells, being large and airy.
20th.—None.
21st.—No Recommitments of those who have suffered solitary Confinement have taken place.
22d.—Fifteen Weeks before Trial for Horse-stealing, and sentenced to be transported for Life.
23d.—Six.
24th.—None except those for Trial, and then only when they do not receive any County Ration.
25th.—No.
26th.—No, except Prisoners for Trial for Fines, or for Want of Bail, and those only if relating to their Cases.
27th.—No local Jurisdiction in the County.
28th.—I do not think it likely.
29th.—I do not think it would be accepted by the Class of Prisoners generally in my Custody.
30th.—I do not think from Experience that either Offenders or their Friends would accept.

P. Frushard, Governor.

Ilford.

No. 7.—Answers of Mr. Luke Miller, Keeper of Ilford County House of Correction, Essex.

1st.—Not any.
2d.—Silence has been kept on the Tread-wheel; Gruel in lieu of Beer.
3d.—Four Day-rooms. Prisoners before Trial according to the Number committed.
4th.—There are no Debtors; Fifty Cells, Three of which will contain Six or Seven Persons.
5th.—Only One.
6th.—Convicted Prisoners do not; others may.
7th.—A Yardsman to enforce Silence.
8th.—They are punished by a closer Confinement and short Allowance.
9th.—Tread-wheel Labour is adopted; Forty-eight Steps are taken in a Minute; the Height of each Step Seven Inches.
10th.—Labour only. Yes; a Tell-tale.
11th & 12th.—No.
13th.—Sits down close to those who remain on the Wheel until his Turn comes to go on again.
14th.—In their Cells.
15th.—Only Two convicted at Sessions.
16th.—In Solitude One Month.
17th.—Turning what is called a Punishing Machine.
18th.—By the Governor once a Day at least; by Chaplain about Three Days in the Week.
19th.—One Hour in the Day in the Gallery between the Cells.
20th.—No.
21st.—In some few Instances; not many.
22d.—Eleven Weeks upon a Charge of Felony. Found guilty of Horse-stealing, and transported for Life.
23d.—None.
24th.—Prisoners before Trial, and if ordered by the Surgeon.
25th.—Very seldom, except under Sickness, it being thought that the Punishment would be considerably lessened if they were to see their Friends.
26th.—No Restrictions; but the Letters are seen by the Governor.
27th.—By the Liberty of Havering, both before and after Trial.
28th.—No.
29th.—In reply to the first Part, I should certainly say no, from what I have heard from Prisoners; in regard to the latter, I cannot collect the Opinion of the Magistracy.
30th.—I should say no, for a similar Reason—their great Dislike to emigrate.

Luke Miller, Keeper.

No. 8.—Answers of Mr. John Mead, Keeper of Newport County House of Correction, Essex.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Newport.

1st.—None.

2d.—The Diet has been changed, the Bread from the finest Flour to the coarsest; the Quart of Beer has been taken off, and Three Pints of Oatmeal Gruel per Day have been allowed in its Stead.

3d.—Two Day-rooms; one for the Male Prisoners, the other for the Females.

4th.—Six.

5th.—Sometimes as many as Seven or Eight.

6th.—The Prisoners associate together during the whole Day.

7th.—None.

8th.—No.

9th.—No Labour.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th.—None.

18th.—There has been no Chaplain for Five Years past. The Governor has no Officer under him, so that they are visited solely by him Seven or Eight Times in the Day.

19th.—The Prisoners are locked in the Cells during the Night only.

20th.—None so punished.

22d.—Sixteen Days, for Horse-stealing; he was transported for Life.

23d.—None.

24th.—Prisoners before Trial are allowed to receive Food besides the Prison Ration, but not after Trial.

25th.—Occasionally, by an Order from the committing Magistrate, and then not oftener than Once in Seven Days.

26th.—At any Time a Prisoner is allowed to write to and receive Letters from his Friends.

27th.—No.

28th.—I think not.

29th & 30th.—I am not able to say.

John Mead, Keeper.

No. 9.—Answers of Mr. M. Windey, Governor of Horsley House of Correction, Gloucester.

Horsley.

1st.—None.

2d.—None whatever.

3d.—The Prison is divided into Three Wards, Two for Males and One for Females, which are called Day-rooms; in these Wards there are Twenty-four Day Cells set apart for solitary Confinement; they are appropriated to Five Classes, and upon Occasion can contain Eighty Prisoners.

4th.—Fifty-six Cells.

5th.—Each Prisoner has a separate Cell, therefore only One.

6th.—It is contrary to the Rule to hold Intercourse with each other when at work; they are kept quiet at their Meals, and sit near each other; at exercise they walk round the Yard, following one another in single Files, without talking, and are all locked up at Night separate. The Third Class, consisting of Fines, Debtors, &c., are allowed, as long as they behave properly, to associate together in the Daytime.

7th.—If they break the Law solitary Confinement is enforced.

8th.—They are not restricted unless at work and exercise.

9th.—Forty-eight in a Minute, and the Height of each Step Seven Inches.

10th.—It is used for grinding Grain of all Sorts, but there is no Regulator extra for ascertaining Amount of Labour.

11th.—It is not.

12th.—No.

13th.—There is no sitting down allowed, therefore he keeps walking round the Mill-yard until his Turn arrives to go on the Wheel. This Regulation and Order is by the Advice of the Surgeon, to prevent the Prisoner from taking Cold, as by sitting at rest he would be liable; they of course see each other.

14th.—Those not at work in their Day Cells; others at labour in the Mill-yard under the Shed, if the Weather allow; the Third Class (being Fines, Debtors, &c.) all together.

15th.—Number, Five.

16th.—Three Days; irregular Conduct in the Prison, &c. &c.

17th.—Those who can read are provided with Testaments and Religious Tracts.

18th.—The Governor sees the Prisoners twice a Day, and the Chaplain visits twice a Week besides Sundays.

19th.—Two Hours in the course of the Day; in the Airing-yard.

20th.—None whatever.

21st.—As far as fair Promises for Amendment are made by the Prisoners, I think ithas.

22d.—From 27th October to January 5th following, for a Breach of the Peace against

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Horsley.

Lord Segrave; he was sent to Gloucester Sessions and found guilty; sentenced to Two Years Imprisonment unless he found Sureties.

23d.—Not One.

24th.—Those of the Third Class only, confined for Fines, Debtors, &c. for Want of Sureties.

25th.—Yes, by a written Order from a Magistrate; no express Time as to the Number of Visits allowed.

26th.—Certainly, subject to the Inspection of the Governor; once a Month upon the Average.

27th.—No further than as usual, in Custody of Constables.

28th.—As a Matter of Opinion, I should think there are many who would be glad of such an Opportunity, and if generally made known, no Doubt numerous Applications would be made by Prisoners discharged from County Gaols particularly.

29th.—No Doubt in the least but that it would, and also receive the Sanction and Assistance of the Magistrates, who have expressed their Opinion highly in favour of such an Institution.

30th.—I should suppose in many Cases the Parents of juvenile Offenders would seize with Avidity the Offer of such a proposed Plan; for Instances have occurred here, that when juvenile Prisoners are discharged they have returned to their own wicked Course, and their Parents, now quite careless as to their future Welfare, would in that Case consent to see them provided for. The Magistrates also, in furtherance of such an excellent Plan, would render every Assistance in their Power.

M. Windey, Governor.

3d April 1835.

Northleach.

No. 10.—Answers of Mr. F. E. Witts, Governor of Northleach House of Correction, Gloucester.

1st.—No Alteration has taken place in the Construction of the Prison in the Year 1834.

2d.—No Change has occurred in the Discipline of the Prison in the Year 1834.

3d.—There are only Two Apartments which can be termed Day-rooms; 1, that in which the Fines Class are placed, chiefly Persons committed for Want of Sureties, and Debtors under a Local Act for the Recovery of small Debts; there are seldom more than Four or Five Prisoners at One Time in this Class; 2, the Wash-house, in which those Females are placed who at any Time are employed in washing for the Prison, also Female Prisoners brought in with Children at the Breast; but since the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act the Number of the latter has been very small.

4th.—There are Fifty-four sleeping Cells and Twenty-five Day Cells.

5th.—One Prisoner only is confined in One Apartment at Night.

6th.—The Prisoners at work on the Tread-wheel might certainly hold Intercourse with each other, that is, each with his adjoining Neighbours, as there are no Partitions to separate one Prisoner from another; but they are closely watched, and it is believed that Conversation between them while on the Tread-wheel is very limited. When taking Exercise in the Yards the Prisoners cannot hold Intercourse with each other. As respects Intercourse in the Day-rooms or Night Apartments, I beg to refer to the Answers to Queries 3 and 5.

7th.—To prevent Intercourse between the Prisoners, when such is detected, they are punished, according to the Circumstances of the Case, by short Confinement in the dark Cell, by curtailing them of the extra Food, or not allowing them the customary Exercise. In order to prevent Intercourse between the Prisoners a vigilant Inspection is kept up.

8th.—The Act of One Prisoner speaking to another is punished by stopping the extra Food allowed where the Prisoner is committed to hard Labour.

9th.—The Number of Steps usually taken in a Minute on the Tread-wheel is from Fifty-six to Sixty; the Height of each Step is Eight Inches.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied to the grinding of Corn for Hire. The Machinery is not provided with any Means of regulating and exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.*

11th.—In answer to this Query I beg to refer to my Answer to Query 6.

12th.—The Act of a Prisoner looking back when on the Wheel is not punished as an Offence.

13th.—As each Prisoner comes off the Wheel he goes into an adjacent Yard where the Relays for the Wheel walk round one after the other, but so as not to converse together. The Man so coming off the Wheel remains walking in this Yard till all those who were in the Yard when he came in have resumed their Turns on the Wheel, and he then goes back

* The Regularity of the Work on the Tread-wheel is in great measure secured by the Inspection of the Officers of the Bridewell, and by appointing a Prisoner to act as Constable, and notice and report any Irregularity in the Movement of the Men on the Wheel; also the Miller (Turnkey) is always during Work Hours in the Mill, which adjoins the Shed where the Tread-wheel is erected, and would readily detect by the Progress of the Work any Irregularity or Relaxation of Labour on the Part of the Prisoners on the Wheel.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Northleach.

to his Work on the Wheel. The Work on the Wheel is thus kept up by a Succession of all the Male Prisoners committed for hard Labour during the Hours appointed for Work. The Construction of the Bridewell is favourable for Inspection by the Officers, so that the Opportunities of holding Intercourse while off the Wheel are almost wholly precluded to the Prisoners.

14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in their Day Cells.

15th.—Four Prisoners during the last Year were placed in solitary Confinement for limited Periods agreeably to their Sentences; they were sentenced by the Court of Quarter Sessions to different Terms of Imprisonment in Northleach Bridewell.

16th.—As to the Prisoners alluded to in the Answer to the foregoing Query, the longest Period of solitary Confinement was One Month.

17th.—Prisoners sentenced to solitary Confinement have no Occupation in Solitude.

18th.—The Prisoners in the Bridewell are visited by the Keeper Three Times a Day, and by the Chaplain Three Times in the Week.

19th.—Prisoners in solitary Confinement leave their Cells to take Exercise in the Yards One Hour daily.

20th.—It did not appear that any injurious Effects were produced by Solitude on the Mind or Health of any Prisoner. Those who had been sentenced to solitary Confinement expressed their Sense of the Irksomeness of the Punishment, and declared that they would not again subject themselves to it.

21st.—It is not ascertained whether any beneficial Result followed on solitary Confinement.

22d.—Except Persons committed to Northleach Bridewell on Charges of Felony, &c. for Re-examination, no Prisoners are committed to that Bridewell except under summary Convictions by Magistrates, for Want of Sureties, Debtors from a Local Court alluded to in the Answer to Query 3, and Prisoners tried and found guilty at the Assizes or Quarter Sessions. Persons committed by Magistrates and Coroners for Trial are invariably committed to Gloucester Gaol.

23d.—See the Answer to the last Query.

24th.—Convicted Prisoners are not allowed to receive Food of any Kind beyond the Prison Rations; Prisoners committed for Re-examination or for Want of Sureties are allowed to receive Food beyond the Prison Rations.

25th.—Convicted Prisoners are only allowed to receive Visits from their Friends when the latter bring an Order to that Effect from the committing Magistrate.

26th.—The Practice in the Prison is to allow a Prisoner to write to his Friends after he has been Three Months in Confinement, unless special Circumstances justify his writing earlier. In all Cases the Letter is read by the Keeper before it is sent. Letters written to Prisoners are opened by the Keeper, and, unless their Contents are important, are detained by him, and delivered to the Prisoner when he is discharged.

27th.—This Query has no Reference to the State of Things at Northleach Bridewell.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—To these Queries I feel reluctant to make a Reply without further Time for Consideration, or without consulting Magistrates of Experience whose Attention has been directed to these Points.

F. E. Witts, Governor.

May 1835.

No. 11.—Answers of Mr. John Oatridge, Governor of Lawfords Gate House of Correction, Gloucestershire.

Lawfords Gate.

1st.—None, being a new Building.

2d.—None.

3d.—Three Day-rooms, appropriated to Second, Third, and Fourth Classes; any Number belonging to that Class.

4th.—Thirty-eight sleeping Rooms and Cells. No Debtors.

5th.—One.

6th.—None at work; none at their Meals; none taking Exercise. They can hold Intercourse in their Day-rooms; none in their Night Apartments, or at any other Time.

7th.—Kept separately.

8th.—No, unless the Language is improper.

9th.—Sixty Steps in a Minute; Seven Inches the Height of each Step.

10th.—Pumping Water regulated by a Lever.

11th & 12th.—Yes.

13th.—By walking round the Yard till cool, and then sitting down. Yes, he can see other Prisoners.

14th.—In their Day Cells and Rooms.

15th.—Three sentenced by Quarter Sessions.

16th.—One Month solitary Confinement; Felony.

17th.—None.

18th.—Daily by the Governor, and Chaplain Three or Four Times a Week.

19th.—Half an Hour in the Morning, One Hour at Mid-day, Half an Hour Evening in the Yards.

20th.—None.

21st.—Query. That can only be known by their Conduct after leaving the Prison.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Lawfords Gate.

22d.—Two or Three Weeks, when they are removed to the County Gaol.
23d.—None.
24th.—Yes; Fines in default of Bail.
25th.—Yes, by a Magistrate's Order.
26th.—Between the Hours of Nine and Twelve, and from Three to Five.
27th.—None; they are sent by Coach.
28th.—Most probably it would.
29th & 30th.—The Magistrates would most willingly co-operate to facilitate such Emigration.

JOHN OATRIDGE, Governor.

7th May 1835.

Winchester.

No. 12.—ANSWERS of the GOVERNOR of WINCHESTER County House of Correction, Hants.

1st.—None.
2d.—Silence when at work, and Restrictions as to writing to or receiving Letters from or seeing Relations.
3d.—Ten Day-rooms, Airing-yards, &c. for the Male Prisoners; viz. Three for the different Grades of Felons, Two for Misdemeanants, One for Offenders against the Game Laws, One for Vagrants, One for Offenders under Seventeen Years of Age, One for the Mechanics, and the other for the Sick; Three for the Females; viz., Felons, Misdemeanants, and Vagrants.
4th.—One hundred and three, besides the Infirmary Wards.
5th.—In very many Three.
6th.—Do not hold Intercourse with each other when at work or in their sleeping Rooms. Such Prohibition does not extend to them in their Day-rooms, or during the Time they are off from Work in the Day.
7th.—To each Mill-yard one of the best-behaved of the Prisoners is appointed as Mill-man, whose Duty it is to prevent any Conversation between the other Prisoners, also to see that each Man is attentive to his Work. Besides this, One Turnkey is constantly at the Mills, and has an Opportunity of seeing any Neglect of Duty on the Part of the Mill-man. The Prisoner selected as Mill-man is excused from Work while filling such Situation. In the Evenings the Turnkeys perambulate the Passages.
8th.—For the first Offence each Man forfeits Six Ounces of Bread, and the second is visited with solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days. The Mill-man for Neglect of Duty forfeits, in the first instance, Twelve Ounces of Bread, and for a Repetition of Remissness is dismissed his Situation, and placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days.
9th.—Forty-eight Steps per Minute, each Step being Nine Inches apart.
10th.—To grinding of Corn, except when the Supply of Grist is insufficient to the full Employment of the Prisoners; at such Times it is applied to non-productive Machinery. Thus the Forty-eight Steps per Minute are performed without Deviation, and the Evasion of Labour is impracticable.
11th & 12th.—No.
13th.—Rests on a Seat, and can see the other Prisoners, but is not allowed to hold any Communication.
14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th.—Fifty.
16th.—One Month at one Time; Offence, Felony.
17th.—None other than reading Religious Books approved by the Chaplain.
18th.—By the Governor when practicable, and by the Chaplain frequently.
19th.—This is regulated by the Time a Man has to remain in solitary Confinement. If for One Week only, he is merely allowed Time in an empty Yard to wash, &c.; if for a Month or longer, he is allowed an Hour to exercise in a Mill-yard whilst the others are away at their Meals.
20th.—No.
21st.—Solitary Confinement is, in my Opinion, the most salutary Punishment possible to be inflicted; it is irksome, and at the same Time safe; it throws a Man upon his own Resources, and inclines him most effectually to a Retrospect of his Conduct.
22d.—None are sent here before Trial.
23d.—None.
24th.—None whatever.
25th.—If for a longer Period than Six Months, once in every Three Months after the Expiration of the first Six Months their Relatives may see them. If for Six Months or less, are not allowed to see their Relatives except in Cases of Sickness.
26th.—No Letters are allowed to be received or sent, except in case of Sickness, or on Matters relating to Prisoner's Discharge.
27th.—Most local or corporate Districts within the County send their Prisoners here after Conviction.
28th, 29th, & 30th.—Emanating, as the Recommendation would do, from a Prison, I do not think One Prisoner in 200 would embrace the Offer.

No. 13.—Answers of W. Willson, Governor of Hertford County Gaol and House of Correction.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Hertford.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Four in the Gaol, and Four in the House of Correction, to those before Conviction. The Numbers vary very much.

4th.—Eighty-eight.

5th.—One, and sometimes Three, but never Two; when crowded, we have been obliged to put Six and Seven in large Rooms.

6th.—They do not hold any Intercourse; they are allowed to take Exercise in the Yard in the Presence of a Turnkey; they eat their Meals in Solitude.

7th.—A Turnkey always present.

8th.—He is reprimanded, and if repeated put on short Allowance.

9th.—Wheel goes round twice in a Minute; Steps Seven and Half Inches apart, Diameter Five Feet.

10th.—For grinding Flour for the Use of the Prison, and for various other Persons who pay 6*d.* per Bushel for grinding; no Means of ascertaining by the Machinery the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th & 12th.—It is not.

13th.—He sits down on a Bench; he can see others, but not allowed to speak to them, a Turnkey being there to prevent him.

14th.—In their sleeping Cells.

15th.—Seven.

16th.—Six Weeks, for stealing Fowls.

17th.—They are allowed Religious Books.

18th.—The Governor daily, and the Chaplain frequently.

19th.—In the Yard attached to the Cell for an Hour in the Day.

20th.—One who was ordered to the Infirmary by the Surgeon.

21st.—I think it has.

22d.—Seven Months; charged with Manslaughter; acquitted.

23d.—Twelve.

24th.—Before Trial.

25th.—Only by Order of a Visiting Magistrate, once a Month.

26th.—He is allowed to write to and receive Letters from his Friends, provided hey are inspected by the Governor.

27th.—Yes.

28th.—I think adult Offenders would not be willing to go.

29th.—I should think it would.

30th.—I do not feel competent to answer this Question, as I think from Experience the Parents might object to it.

31st March 1835. Wm. Willson, Governor.

No. 14.—Answers of Mr. George Smith, Gaoler, Huntingdon County Gaol.

Huntingdon.

1st.—None.

2d.—The Rules and Regulations of the Prison were revised in order to their being allowed at the Quarter Sessions held in January last, and for the Approval of the Judges at the last Assize, a Copy of which I send herewith.

3d.—Eight Day-rooms, which are appropriated to the following Classes of Prisoners: One for Females before Trial, One for convicted Females, One for Debtors, One for Felons before Trial, One for convicted Felons, Two for convicted Misdemeanants, Vagrants, &c., One for Misdemeanants before Trial; and the Number of the respective Classes varies from One to Twenty in the Wards.

4th.—Thirty-four single Cells, and Ten capable of containing Three or more in each.

5th.—One in each single Cell, and Three in the large Cells, except when the Number of any Class becomes excessive, in which Case it is found necessary sometimes to confine Three Prisoners in a single Cell, and more than Three in the large Cells, according to Circumstances.

6th.—All unnecessary Intercourse is strictly forbidden on all Occasions with convicted Prisoners.

7th.—Prisoners at work on one of the Tread-wheels are employed in separate Compartments, and it is in contemplation to fit up the other Wheel in the same Manner; in addition to which they are constantly subjected to the Inspection of the Keeper and his Officers by Day, but at present no Officer has been appointed specially as a Sentinel to each Wheel.

8th.—Yes, by close Confinement for a limited Time, but which seldom exceeds One Day, during which Time also a Portion of the Prison Allowance is withheld, and is found to be effectual in all Cases.

9th.—The Number of Steps in a Minute is Forty-eight, and the Height of each Step is Seven Inches and a Half.

10th.—Grinding and dressing Corn for the Public and for the Use of the Prison, but chiefly the latter; also raising Water for the Prison. The Machinery is also attached to Three Pair of large Bellows when the Mill is not engaged in grinding Corn. A Gyrometer was formerly placed at one End of the Tread-wheels, which exhibited the Number of

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Huntingdon.

Revolutions performed; but lately it has been annexed to a Hand Machine for the same Purpose, where it has been found to be much more useful.

11th.—Yes; Prisoners, when on one of the Wheels, are prevented from seeing or communicating with each other, so far as the Means at present used can effect.

12th.—No; and I much doubt the Legality of enforcing such a Regulation where any exists.

13th.—Convicted Felons work Three Fourths on the Wheel, and are allowed a Relay of the other Fourth; convicted Misdemeanants and Vagrants work Two Thirds, and are allowed a Relay of the other Third. Such Relays rest on the Steps by which they ascend the Wheel, or sit on the Floor. They can see each other when they come off the Wheel and when resting; indeed it seems impossible for it to be otherwise so long as Twenty Prisoners are employed together in the same Ward.

14.—Debtors and Prisoners before Trial take their Meals in the Day-rooms, and all convicted Prisoners in separate Cells when practicable. (Vide Rule 11.)

15th.—Two only.

16th.—Fourteen Days; Offence, stealing a Table.

17th.—None other than reading the Bible, &c.

18th.—The Governor visits them daily on his inspecting the Prison, and the Chaplain about Three Times a Week, and oftener if required.

19th.—One Hour Morning and Evening, when they who are in Solitude are allowed to take Exercise in the Airing-yard when it is not occupied by other Prisoners.

20th.—None in either Mind or Body.

21st.—I believe it has, and that no System of Discipline can be introduced under proper Regulations better calculated to accomplish this Object, both as it regards the convicted and also such as are untried. Daily Experience shows more its Necessity, in reference to both Classes, in order to counteract the baneful Influence of the almost indiscriminate Association of the various Grades of Delinquents. I have no Hope of seeing any Moral Change effected by any System, however excellent it may seem, where unrestrained Intercourse is allowed in the Prison.

22d.—Ninety-four Days; Offence, stealing Leather; Sentence, Six Calendar Months hard Labour, the first and last Ten Days in Solitude. I have had Persons in Custody 216 Days before Trial prior to the Year 1834.

23d.—One only in the Year 1834.

24th.—Vide Rules 24 to 30 inclusive.

25th.—Vide Rules 14 to 21 inclusive.

26th.—Vide Rules 22 and 23.

27th.—None other than as follows:—All Prisoners who are convicted at the Assizes of Offences committed in the Borough of Huntingdon are sent to this Gaol, pursuant to Sentence, where they are kept and subsisted wholly at the Expense of the County.

28th.—I am inclined to think it would, and I believe such an Experiment would be desirable. I have inquired of Thirty-one convicted Prisoners, Eleven of whom have assented to comply with such a Proposition on being further informed thereon.

29th & 30th.—I believe it would be acceptable in many Cases, and I have no Reason to think there would be any Want of Co-operation in reference to such an Object on the Part of the Magistracy of this County.

GEO. SMITH, Gaoler.

10th April 1835.

Canterbury.

No. 15.—ANSWERS of Mr. J. BONE, Keeper of CANTERBURY County Gaol and House of Correction, Kent.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Nine Day-rooms for Felons and Misdemeanors of both Sexes (before and after Trial), and for Vagrants; they are appropriated to the whole Number of Prisoners, which varied in the last Year from Thirty-three to Ninety-six.

4th.—Fifty-one sleeping Rooms and Cells. Debtors are not committed to these Prisons; they are sent to the other Gaol for this County at Maidstone.

5th.—The Prisoners are kept in separate Cells at Night as much as possible; but it frequently happens, during the Winter Months, that there are more Prisoners than Cells, and then Three Prisoners, each with a separate Bed and Bedding, are placed together in some of the Cells.

6th.—Silence and orderly Behaviour is at all Times strictly enforced, particularly during the Hours of Labour. The Prisoners take their Meals and Exercise together in Classes, and whilst they are so assembled all loud Talking is prevented. Those who sleep in separate Cells are not allowed to hold any Intercourse with each other at Night, and those who sleep in Cells where more than One Prisoner is confined are prevented from talking as much as the Circumstances will admit of.

7th.—One of the Prisoners is selected from the others in each Ward, whose Duty it is to report all Irregularities of the other Prisoners; they are also constantly watched by the Turnkeys and myself.

8th.—Prisoners speaking to each other whilst at work, or at Night, are punished by solitary Confinement in the dark Cells, and fed upon Bread and Water only.

9th.—Treading-

407

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Canterbury.

9th.—Treading-wheel Labour is adopted here; the Prisoners take Forty-eight Steps in a Minute, the Height of each Step being Eight Inches.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied to grinding and dressing Corn and crushing Malt. The Machinery is not provided with the Means of exhibiting the Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—The Tread-wheel is not fitted up with separate Compartments; the Prisoners work in Gangs of from Four to Sixteen.

12th.—The Prisoners are not allowed to look back frequently when on the Wheel, and are punished for any irregular Conduct thereon.

13th.—The Prisoners rest, when they come off the Wheel, on Seats provided for that Purpose; each Prisoner rests One Quarter of every Hour, and can see all the other Prisoners of his Gang.

14th.—In their Day-rooms.

15th.—Four Soldiers, pursuant to the Sentences of Courts-martial.

16th.—Forty-two Days, for a Breach of Military Discipline.

17th.—No.

18th.—They are visited daily by the Governor; the Chaplain regulates his Visits according to the Prospect of benefiting the Prisoners by his Attendance.

19th.—They leave their Cells to take Exercise separately in One of the Yards for One Hour per Day, when the Surgeon is of opinion that their Health requires it.

20th.—None.

21st.—I do not know, as the Prisoners were Soldiers, and joined their respective Regiments immediately after the Expiration of their Imprisonment.

22d.—One Prisoner was confined Fourteen Weeks before Trial for Felony; he was convicted at the Quarter Sessions, and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation.

23d.—Six in the Year 1834.

24th.—Prisoners for Trial, and those not committed to hard Labour, who do not receive any Prison Allowance, are permitted to receive Food from their Friends, or to purchase it.

25th.—Convicted Prisoners, during good Behaviour, are allowed to receive Visits from their Friends, in Rooms prepared for that Purpose, once a Month, if they can procure an Order from a Visiting Justice for that Purpose.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners are at all Times allowed to write to and receive Letters from their Friends, but all Letters are opened and examined before they are passed in or out of the Prison.

27th.—Arrangement has been made for sending Prisoners committed in the Jurisdiction of Fordwich to these Prisons, under the 5th Geo. 4. C. 85.

28th.—I think very few adult Offenders would avail themselves of an Offer of a free Passage to a penal Colony, as the Cause of the Commitment of many of them is not, in my Opinion, so much from Want of Employment as the Absence of a prudent Regard to Industry, Sobriety, and Regularity.

29th.—I do not think that an Institution to facilitate Emigration to a penal Colony would be acceptable generally to discharged Prisoners; a few of them might take advantage of the Benefits held out by such an Institution, but they would, I think, bear a very small Proportion to the Numbers yearly liberated from the Gaols in England who appear in a State of Destitution. It is impossible for me to say whether such an Institution would have the Co-operation of the Magistrates; but I feel confident that they would not offer the least Impediment to any Suggestion which had for its Object the Reformation of Offenders of any Description, or the Prevention of Crime.

30th.—There have been but few juvenile Offenders committed to these Prisons, and from the Observations I have been enabled to make I do not think that an Institution of the Nature alluded to would be generally acceptable to them, or their Parents or Friends, particularly to those who belong to agricultural Parishes; but, from what I have observed of young Offenders who have strayed into this Part of the County from the Neighbourhood of London, I think some of them would be more likely to avail themselves of the Protection offered by the Institution. My Observations, in No. 29, as to the Co-operation of the Magistracy, will apply to this also.

J. Bone, Keeper.

16th April 1835.

No. 16.—Answers of Mr. James Hansbrow, Keeper of Lancaster Castle County Gaol.

Lancaster Castle.

1st.—None.

2d.—The Prisoners employed on the Tread-wheels and in picking Cotton have been required to conduct themselves with greater Propriety and Regularity than had previously been insisted upon.

3d.—The Number of Day-rooms is Thirty-three. The Classes to which they are appropriated are,—1st, Male Debtors; 2d, Female Debtors; 3d, Male convicted Felons; 4th, Female convicted Felons; 5th, Male convicted Misdemeanants; 6th, Female convicted Misdemeanants; 7th, Male Prisoners before Trial; 8th, Female Prisoners before Trial; 9th, Males committed for Want of Sureties; 10th, Females committed for Want of Sureties. The greatest Number of Prisoners confined in this Gaol in the Year 1834 was 496.

4th.—One hundred and sixty-three.

5th.—From One Prisoner to Forty Prisoners.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Lancaster Castle.

6th.—At all Times, except when in Chapel.
7th.—None.
8th.—Not visited by Punishment.
9th.—Forty-eight Steps taken in a Minute; each Step Eight Inches in Height.
10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheels is applied to the weaving of Calico and the raising of Water. The Machinery is provided with the Means of regulating, &c. the Amount of Labour.
11th.—No.
12th.—Yes.
13th.—He rests on a Bench or Form in the Mill-yard, and when resting can see other Prisoners.
14th.—In the Day-rooms of their respective Wards.
15th.—Forty.
16th.—A Month, longest Period of Confinement; Offence, Larceny.
17th.—None.
18th.—Almost daily by the Governor, and twice or thrice a Week by the Chaplain.
19th.—They take no Exercise.
20th.—Not that I am aware of.
21st.—I cannot say positively; but I am of opinion that solitary Confinement is greatly dreaded by the Majority of Prisoners.
22d.—Two Prisoners confined Seven Months before Trial; found guilty; Death recorded.
23d.—Eighty-three.
24th.—No Prisoner is permitted to receive Food of any Kind in addition to the Prison Ration except Debtors, but convicted Crown Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour, and Prisoners before Trial, are allowed wholly to maintain themselves, if they think fit to do so.
25th.—Once in Three Months, or oftener, by the Friends obtaining the Order of a Visiting Justice.
26th.—No Restriction on these Points. All Letters to and from Crown Prisoners are subject to Inspection.
27th.—In this Gaol Prisoners are received before and after Trial from the Borough of Lancaster, and after Trial only from the Boroughs of Liverpool and Wigan.
28th & 29th.—Of 186 Male adult Prisoners confined in this Gaol, Sixty-nine state that they would willingly avail themselves of the Offers referred to in these Questions; and of Fifty-six Female adult Prisoners, Two express a Wish to avail themselves of those Offers.
30th.—Of Fourteen Boys confined in this Gaol, Four seem disposed to avail themselves of the proposed Offer; there is but One Girl confined here, and she professes a Willingness to accept the Offer. I have no Means of ascertaining the Sentiments of the whole Body of the Lancashire Magistracy with reference to the Questions 29 and 30. I have submitted those Questions to a few of the Visiting Justices of this Gaol, who approve of the Objects the Society have in view.

JAMES HANSBROW, Keeper.

20th April 1835.

Leicester.

No. 17.—ANSWERS of Mr. C. MASSON, Gaoler, LEICESTER County Gaol.

1st.—No Alteration took place in this Gaol in 1834.
2d.—No Alteration in the Discipline has occurred during the same Period.
3d.—There are Seventeen Day-rooms; One for unconvicted Misdemeanors, One for convicted Misdemeanors, One for convicted Felons, Two for unconvicted Felons, each appropriated to Fifteen Prisoners; One for unconvicted Women, for Eight; One for convicted Women, for Twelve; One for Female House of Correction, for Eighteen; Three for Male Debtors, for Eleven each; One for Male Debtors, for Four; One for Female Debtors, for Four; One for King's Evidence, for Two; One for condemned, for Two; One for Male and One for Female Infirmary, for Three each.
4th.—There are 116 sleeping Rooms and Cells, including Debtors.
5th.—One Male Prisoner is confined in One Apartment in the Night, excepting One Cell in each Ward, where Four are confined; Two Female Prisoners are confined in One Apartment.
6th.—The Prisoners in each Ward hold Intercourse with each other at all Times through the Day, but not in their Night Apartments, excepting where Two Women sleep in the same Cell, and Four Men sleep in the same Cell.
7th.—Sleeping in different Cells prevents this Intercourse.
8th.—Calling to each other from their Night Apartments is punished by solitary Confinement.
9th.—There is not a Tread-wheel.
14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in their Day-rooms.
15th.—Fourteen Prisoners were placed in solitary Confinement, agreeable to Sentence last Year.
16th.—The longest Period was Ten Days; the Offences were stealing from a Dwelling House, and stealing a Jacket, &c.
17th.—The Prisoners had not any Occupation in Solitude.
18th.—Visited by the Governor daily, and by the Chaplain twice a Week.
19th.—They do not leave the Cells at any Time to take Exercise.

20th.—I

400

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Leicester.

20th.—I did not perceive any injurious Effect on the Mind or Health of any Prisoner by Solitude.

21st.—I am not aware of any beneficial Effect being produced by Solitude.

22d.—The longest Period a Prisoner was confined before Trial was from 10th August to 25th March; the Offence was Housebreaking; the Sentence Eighteen Calendar Months hard Labour, House of Correction.

23d.—Twenty-three were confined for Three Months and upwards before Trial.

24th.—A Prisoner is allowed to receive Food of any Kind from his or her Friends before Conviction.

25th.—A convicted Prisoner is allowed to receive Visits from his Friends, being Relations, once a Day, excepting Sundays; Females in House of Correction for hard Labour, once a Month.

26th.—A convicted Prisoner is allowed to write at all reasonable Times, and to receive Letters at all Times from his Friends.

27th.—The Borough Magistrates have a concurrent Jurisdiction with the County in the Bishop's Fee, and commit to the County Gaol, but do not commit out of the Borough to the County Gaol.

28th.—I believe a free Passage, &c. to a penal Colony would not be accepted by adult Offenders on their Discharge from Prison.

29th.—I believe if an Institution were to be formed to facilitate the Emigration to a penal Colony of Offenders liberated in a State of Destitution such a Measure would not be acceptable generally to the Prisoners.

30th.—I believe such an Institution would not be acceptable to juvenile Offenders, &c., or to their Parents or Friends.

C. Masson, Gaoler.

17th April 1835.

No. 18.—Answers of Mr. William Brocklesby, Keeper of Lincoln Castle County Gaol.

Lincoln Castle.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Eleven Day-rooms; One for Master Debtors, Two for certificated Debtors, Two for Prisoners before Trial, Two for convicted Prisoners, One for Female Debtors, One for Female Prisoners before Trial, One for Females convicted, and One for Misdemeanors. The Crown Prisoners and certificated Debtors are about from Three to Eight in each Room, Master Debtors from about Six to Twelve.

4th.—Crown Cells, Seventeen; Debtors sleeping Rooms, Ten.

5th.—One, Three, or more; never Two Males; greatest Number is Nine.

6th.—Intercourse with each other in their Apartments during Exercise and at other Times.

7th.—Allowed.

8th.—None.

9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—No Tread-wheel.

14th.—In their Day-rooms.

15th, 16th, & 17th.—None.

18th.—By the Keeper once every Day, with other occasional Visits, and by the Chaplain once a Week in their Day-rooms.

19th.—The Prisoners exercise when they please in the Yards, which are open nearly the whole of the Day.

20th & 21st.—None confined.

22d.—Thomas Frudd was committed (on a Charge of stealing one Sheep) on the 26th July 1834; delivered by Proclamation 11th March 1835.

23d.—Twelve, Eleven Males and One Female.

24th.—None but Master Debtors, who maintain themselves.

25th.—Yes, on Monday and Thursday (by an Order from a Justice of the County on each Occasion), not to continue longer than a Quarter of an Hour.

26th.—Yes; the Prisoners are allowed to write on a Tuesday, and receive Letters on their Arrival by Post, &c.

27th.—Prisoners from all Parts of the County are sent to the County Gaol and Houses of Correction, both before and after Trial; the Expenses are paid out of the County Rates.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—The Visiting Magistrates are of opinion these Questions are not applicable to this County, being solely agricultural.

William Brocklesby, Keeper.

8th April 1835.

No. 19.—Answers of Mr. Matthew Edis Maile, Governor of Folkingham County House of Correction, Lincoln.

Folkingham.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Eight; Assaults, Misdemeanants, convicted Felons, Prisoners for Trial, and Two Wards for Females.

4th.—Thirty-seven.

5th.—One, except when there are more than the Prison is capable of containing, then Three or more.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Folkingham.

6th.—Do the Prisoners hold any Intercourse with each other when associated at work? No. At their Meals; taking Exercise; in their Day-rooms? Yes. In their Night Apartments, or at any other Time? No. Remark:—An Order has been recently issued by the Magistrates strictly enjoining Silence in the Convicts Wards and at the Wheel, on pain of Punishment.

7th.—The constant Attendance of the Officers.

8th.—Yes; solitary Confinement upon Bread and Water.

9th.—About Forty-eight; Seven Inches.

10th.—The Wheel is applied to no useful Purpose; it is regulated by a Sail acting upon the Wind. There is a Timepiece attached to it, which shows the Revolutions, if necessary.

11th.—None. Remark:—I consider it to be very essential.

12th.—No. In my Opinion, nothing would tend more to diminish the Number of Re-committals.

13th.—The Prisoners are allowed to sit down as soon as they come off the Wheel; yes, there is nothing to prevent it. Remark:—I think it would be very desirable to adopt some Measure to prevent Prisoners from seeing each other.

14th.—In the Day-rooms. I should suggest that all Prisoners retire to their separate Cells at Meal Times.

15th.—Twenty-five.

16th.—Fourteen Days; an aggravated Case of Assault.

17th.—None.

18th.—By the Governor once a Day; Chaplain occasionally.

19th.—None. In this Prison the Prisoners are seldom sentenced to long Periods of solitary Confinement, consequently much Exercise is not required.

20th.—No.

21st.—Yes; generally speaking, there is no Kind of Punishment they dread so much.

22d.—Seventy-nine Days; Horse-stealing; Transportation for Life.

23d.—None.

24th.—No.

25th.—Yes; once a Month, if sentenced to a longer Period. Remark:—In my Opinion, all Correspondence with Friends should be prohibited, except in Cases of absolute Necessity.

26th.—Yes, at any Time.

27th.—None.

28th.—I should suppose, from my own Experience, that none would accept it voluntarily.

29th.—I do not suppose any of my Prisoners would voluntarily accept of such an Offer; if the Prisoners were agreeable, there is no Doubt the Magistrates would concur.

30th.—I should say as before, that no Prisoner would voluntarily emigrate.

MATTHEW EDIS MAILE.

18th April 1835.

Louth.

No. 20.—ANSWERS of Mr. R. Cox, Keeper of LOUTH County House of Correction, Lincolnshire.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Nine Day-rooms; viz. Male convicted Felons, Felons for Trial, Misdemeanors for Trial, convicted Misdemeanors, Debtors, and Prisoners for Want of Sureties; Female Felons for Trial, convicted Felons and Misdemeanors. From Ten to Fifteen sometimes in the same Class in each Day-room.

4th.—Twelve large sleeping Rooms, and Thirty-eight single sleeping Cells.

5th.—From Six to Eight Prisoners are sometimes confined in One Apartment at Night.

6th.—No Directions have been given by the Magistrates to prevent Intercourse with each other, either at their Work, at their Meals, taking Exercise, in their Day or in their Night Apartments.

7th.—No Steps have been taken to prevent Intercourse.

8th.—The Act of Prisoners speaking to each other is not visited by any Punishment.

9th.—The Tread-wheel Labour is adopted; the Number of Steps are Forty-eight in a Minute, each Step Eight Inches high.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied to grinding Corn; no Regulators to show the Amount of Labour.

11th.—There are Two Tread-wheels, where Twelve Men can work at each Wheel, but no Separation on the Wheels.

12th.—The Act of Prisoners looking back when on the Wheel is not punished as an Offence.

13th.—One Half of the Prisoners at each Wheel work at one Time, and the other Half rest; when at rest or at work they can see each other in the Wheel-room.

14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in their separate Day-rooms.

15th.—Two Prisoners were placed in solitary Confinement in the last Year, agreeable to Sentence.

16th.—One Fortnight each; One convicted of Felony, and One convicted of a Misdemeanor.

17th.—They had no Occupation in Solitude.

18th.—The Chaplain attends the Prison twice of a Sunday, and twice in the Week. The Keeper visits the Prisoners daily.

19th.—Prisoners

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Louth.

19th.—Prisoners leave their Night Cells a Quarter past Six in the Morning in Summer, and at Daylight in Winter; they take Exercise the whole Day in the Day-rooms and Airing-yards; are put in their Night Cell at Eight in Summer, and at dark in Winter.

20th.—No injurious Effects on the Minds or Health of any Prisoner by Solitude.

21st.—No beneficial Effects to be observed in them by their Solitude.

22d.—Robert Gollins was committed on a Charge of Felony the 12th of January 1834, and acquitted on Trial on the 16th of April following, Thirteen Weeks and Three Days; has since been convicted of Burglary, and transported for Life.

23d.—Two confined for Three Months and upwards before Trial.

24th.—No Prisoner except Debtors are allowed any Food beyond the Prison Ration.

25th.—Convicted Prisoners are visited by their Friends, under an Order in Writing from a Magistrate in the Presence of the Keeper or Turnkey.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to write to their Friends, and receive Letters at any Time; all Letters sent out and brought in are seen by the Keeper.

27th.—The Town of Louth is a local Jurisdiction, and Prisoners are committed from thence to the County Gaol and House of Correction before and after Trial.

28th.—No Offer ever being made to adult Offenders for a free Passage to a penal Colony, I am not able to say it would be accepted; it might in some Instances.

29th.—If an Institution was formed by His Majesty's Government for the Emigration to a penal Colony, it is uncertain whether it would be generally acceptable to Prisoners.

30th.—Juvenile Offenders (discharged destitute) in some Instances might wish to emigrate to a penal Colony, if not otherwise prevailed upon by their Friends.

RICHARD COX, Keeper

2d April 1835.

Kirton.

No. 21.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN LEE, Keeper of KIRTON County House of Correction, Lincoln.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—The Number of Day-rooms are Nine, classed as follows: Male Prisoners; No. 1, Reception-room; No. 2, convicted Misdemeanors; No. 3, convicted Felons; No. 4, Vagrants; No. 5, unconvicted Felons; and No. 6, unconvicted Misdemeanors: Females; No. 7, Felons; No. 8, Misdemeanors; and No. 9, Vagrants. The Number of Prisoners varies almost daily.

4th.—Twenty-seven sleeping Cells for Male Prisoners, and for Female Prisoners One large Room and the Two Infirmary-rooms, when not required for any sick Prisoners.

5th.—One, Three, and sometimes Four.

6th.—At all Times.

7th.—None.

8th.—No.

9th.—Forty-eight Steps per Minute, and the Height of each Step Eight Inches and a Half.

10th.—None.

11th & 12th.—No.

13th.—Each Prisoner descends in turn, and rests himself upon a Wooden Bench, and can see all that are upon the same Wheel with himself.

14th.—In their respective Day-rooms.

15th, 16th, 17th, & 18th.—None.

19th.—At no Time; in the Yards attached to their Cells.

20th & 21st.—None.

22d.—One Thirteen Weeks and Four Days, for stealing a Waggon Cover, transported for Seven Years; and One Fourteen Weeks, for stealing a Smock-frock, acquitted.

23d.—Eleven.

24th.—None, except Debtors.

25th & 26th.—Not restricted.

27th.—None to this Prison.

28th.—I think not, as I have noticed that all Prisoners that have been transported from this Prison express their Determination to return again to this Country if possible.

29th & 30th.—Not having an Opportunity of laying this Circular before the Magistrates, owing to the late Hour the Quarter Session terminated on Saturday Night last, I am unable to answer these Two Questions.

JOHN LEE, Keeper.

15th April 1835.

Spilsby.

No. 22.—ANSWERS of Mr. THOMAS SANDERS, Keeper of SPILSBY County House of Correction, Lincoln.

1st.—A Mill has been erected to grind Corn.

2d.—None.

3d.—Eight Day-rooms; One appropriated to Male Felons for Appearance, Two Male convicted Felons, Three Male Misdemeanors for Appearance, Four Male convicted Misdemeanors, Five Female Misdemeanors, Six Female Felons, Seven Vagrants, Eight Debtors.

4th.—Sixty-three single sleeping Cells.

 5th.—One

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Spilsby.

5th.—One only.
6th.—They do.
7th.—None.
8th.—No, excepting quarrelling or speaking loud; then they are confined solitary for Twenty-four Hours.
9th.—Forty-eight Steps a Minute; Eight Inches in Height.
10th.—The Tread-mill is appropriated to grind Flour; no Means for exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.
11th.—The Tread-wheels are in Two Classes only, viz. Felons and Misdemeanors.
12th.—No.
13th.—By sitting on a Bench, or sometimes, in warm Weather, sitting on the Floor.
14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in their separate Day-rooms.
15th.—Four, agreeably to Sentence.
16th.—Fourteen Days, when convicted of Felony.
17th.—Those who could read had Books, but no Labour was afforded.
18th.—The Prisoners are visited by the Governor every Day, and sometimes oftener, and by the Chaplain Four or Five Times a Week, and in case of serious Illness every Day.
19th.—Four or Five Hours per Day in the Airing-yard.
20th.—None whatever.
21st.—None that I have discovered.
22d.—Eleven Weeks; Felony. Found guilty, and sentenced Twelve Calendar Months hard Labour.
23d.—None whatever.
24th.—Only that allowed by the Surgeon.
25th.—Allowed Visits by Order from Magistrates.
26th.—Prisoners are allowed to write and receive Letters from their Friends, subject to the Inspection of the Keeper.
27th.—Prisoners committed to this Prison for Examination, charged with the higher Offences, are sent by Cart or Coach, if committed to the County Gaol.
28th.—I should suppose not, for they would hold it little better than Transportation.
29th.—I should think it would only be acceptable to a few, but I cannot say how far the Magistracy would co-operate with the Measure.
30th.—I should think this Measure more likely to find Support than the Two former ones, but how far the Magistracy would co-operate I am not able to say.

THOMAS SANDERS, Keeper.

Monmouth.

No. 23.—ANSWERS of Mr. CHARLES FORD, Keeper of MONMOUTH County Gaol and House of Correction.

1st and 2d.—None.
3d.—Ten. First, Male Debtors; Second, Female Debtors; Third, Males convicted of Felony; Fourth, Females convicted of Felony; Fifth, Males convicted of Misdemeanors; Sixth, Females convicted of Misdemeanors; Seventh, Males committed on Charge or Suspicion of Felony; Eighth, Females committed on Charge or Suspicion of Felony; Ninth, Males committed on Charge or Suspicion of Misdemeanors; Tenth, Females committed on Charge or Suspicion of Misdemeanors. Each Room is occupied by their respective Class, varying in the Numbers in each Class from One to Sixteen or more, according to the Number of Prisoners of each Class confined in the Prison. Vagrants occupy whatever Class might be vacant at the Time of Committal.
4th.—Thirty-seven; viz. One large sleeping Room for Male Debtors, and Thirty-six single sleeping Cells; but when the Prison is crowded an extra Bedstead is put in each Cell, so that Three Prisoners can be accommodated. There are Two condemned Cells, and a small Room attached to each, which when occupied will contain Twelve Prisoners; viz. Three in each Apartment, there being an Iron Gate to separate the Cells and the Rooms attached to them.
5th.—One, except when the Prison is crowded, then there are Three.
6th.—The Prisoners do not hold any Intercourse when at work, but when at their Meals and Exercise they converse together; they likewise converse together in their sleeping Cells, the Cells being so situated as not to be able to prevent it; but when heard they are punished.
7th.—When they are detected in talking in their sleeping Cells they are punished by solitary Confinement the Day following on Bread and Water.
8th.—Each Class have the Privilege of conversing together when in the Class-room and Airing-yard; but when at work or in the sleeping Cells, they are punished by solitary Confinement on Bread and Water.
9th.—Fifty-two; Six Inches.
10th.—The Tread-wheel is not applied for any Purpose except Labour. There is a Pair of Stones for grinding Corn, but are not made use of. There is Machinery attached to regulate the Paces of the Wheel.
11th.—None. There is an Overseer to superintend them when at work.
12th.—No.
13th.—By standing in a Row in the Mill-house until their Turn comes to relieve the others. Yes.

14th.—In

14th.—In their Day-rooms.

15th.—One.

16th.—This Prisoner was sentenced to a Month's solitary Confinement, a Week at a Time, during his Imprisonment; for Bestiality.

17th.—None.

18th.—From Three to Four Times a Day by the Keeper, and Four Times a Week by the Chaplain.

19th.—An Hour in a Class-yard, separate from the other Prisoners.

20th.—None.

21st.—We have had so few Prisoners sentenced to solitary Confinement that it is impossible for me to judge of the Effect.

22d.—Forty-two Weeks, viz. from the 21st August 1834 to the 31st March 1835; for an Assault, with an Attempt to commit a Rape. Guilty; Eighteen Months hard Labour.

23d.—Ten, viz. taking the Period from the Lent Assizes 1834 to the Lent Assizes 1835.

24th.—Prisoners before Trial are allowed to receive Food from their Friends, or purchase it if they have the Means, but not after being sentenced.

25th.—Yes, by obtaining an Order from a Visiting Magistrate. No specific Time named.

26th.—Yes, every Three Months, and receive Letters when sent to him.

27th.—The Boroughs of Monmouth, Newport, and Usk send their Prisoners to this Gaol before and after Conviction, for the Arrangement for doing which Reference had better be made to the Clerk of the Peace and Treasurer of the County.

CHARLES FORD, Keeper.

11th April 1835.

Monmouth.

No. 24.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN MERRETT, Governor of USK County House of Correction, Monmouth.

Usk.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—There are Four Classes or Divisions of Prisoners; viz. One Day-room and Yard for Male Felons, Misdemeanors, &c., to appear at the Quarter Sessions; One Day-room and Yard for Male convicted Prisoners; One Day-room and Yard for Female Felons, Misdemeanors, &c. for Trial; and One Day-room and Yard for convicted Females. The Two Classes of Males will respectively contain about Twenty-five Prisoners in each, and about Twelve in each Class of Females.

4th.—There are Two large sleeping Rooms, One Hospital Room, and Sixteen sleeping Cells. Either of the large sleeping Rooms will answer for an Hospital if at any Time required, both of them having a Fire-place fitted up in them, and also in the upper Part of the Prison.

5th.—Three Prisoners generally sleep in One Cell; and when the Prison is crowded Seven or Eight sleep in each of the large sleeping Rooms and in the Hospital.

6th.—The Prisoners are not allowed to talk when at work on the Tread-wheel; at other Times they do talk to each other at all other Times by Day, and in their Night Apartments, but are restrained from talking very loud or making a great Noise, and particular by Night.

7th.—None.

8th.—If a Prisoner will repeatedly be talking when at hard Labour, he is put in the dark Cell for Punishment.

9th.—The Tread-wheel Labour is adopted, and the usual Pace is Forty-eight Steps taken in a Minute, and the Space between each Step is Seven Inches.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied for Labour only, there being no Machinery attached to it for grinding any Material. There is a Bell attached to the Machinery which rings every Ten Minutes as a Signal for the Prisoners to change off the Wheel. The Machinery is not provided with any Means of regulating and exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—There is no separate Compartments to prevent Prisoners seeing each other or communicating in any way when on the Wheel.

12th.—It is contrary to Order for a Prisoner to be looking back when on the Wheel, and punishable as in No. 8.

13th.—The Prisoners at the Wheel are equally divided, one Half on the Wheel and the other Half to rest, and change every Ten Minutes. When they come off the Wheel to rest they are kept walking at a slow Pace circular round under a large spaced Shed attached to the Building in front of the Wheel, and can see each other.

14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in their Day-room.

22d.—The longest Period in the last Year in which a Prisoner was confined before Trial was Twelve Weeks, charged with stealing Two Ducks and One Drake; he was found guilty, and sentenced to Three Calendar Months hard Labour.

23d.—No Prisoner was confined in the last Year before Trial for Three Months or upwards.

24th.—No Prisoner in this Prison is allowed to receive Food of any Kind beyond the Prison Ration.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Monmouth.

25th.—The convicted Prisoners are allowed to receive Visits from their Friends on any Day except Sunday, at regulated Hours, that is from Ten till One in the Forenoon, and from Two till Four in the Afternoon, by obtaining a written Order from One of the Visiting Magistrates, or an Order from any acting Magistrate of the County.

26th.—The convicted Prisoners are allowed to write to and to receive Letters from their Friends at any Time, the Letters coming under the Inspection of the Governor.

27th.—There has not been any.

28th.—Probably so.

29th.—Undoubtedly.

30th.—There can be no Doubt on the Subject.

JOHN MERRETT, Governor.

Norfolk.

No. 25.—ANSWERS of the Rev. JAMES BROWN, Chaplain of NORFOLK County Gaol.

1st, 2d, 3d, & 4th.—In all these Particulars the Prison remains the same as it was when I made my last Report to the Society.

5th.—Generally only One Prisoner sleeps in each Cell or sleeping Room. If Circumstances require a Departure from this Rule, not less than Three are put together.

6th.—The Prisoners are not permitted to converse with each other when they are at work or in their sleeping Rooms; in all other Cases the same Restriction cannot be enforced without the constant Attendance of more Servants than the County would be willing to provide. I beg leave here to remark, from long Experience, that in Prison Discipline nothing so much prevents the Reformation of the Prisoners as their Intercourse with each other in their Day-rooms.

7th.—The Taskmaster is in constant Attendance upon the Prisoners when they are at work; and as they cannot converse together in their Cells without talking aloud, they are liable to be overheard by the Turnkeys and reported to the Gaoler.

8th.—If a Prisoner talks on the Wheel he loses his Turns of Rest for a certain Period of Time, if he perseveres in such Misconduct he is not allowed the Use of the Day-room, and if he is still disobedient Part of his Allowance of Food is withdrawn. The last Two Punishments are applicable to those who converse with each other from their Cells.

9th & 10th.—Answered in my former Report.

11th.—We have had Four Tread-wheels, connected with each other in Four separate but adjoining Compartments, for Four Classes of Prisoners. These Classes cannot converse with each other; but there is no Partition between the individual Prisoners in the same Class, nor indeed can be, because the Three principal Wheels have their Axles at Right Angles to the Fronts of the Compartments. Such individual Separation therefore would hinder the Inspection of the Taskmaster, and would prevent a free and sufficient Circulation of Air. In my Reports to the Magistrates I have frequently complained of this very faulty Construction as standing in the Way of perfect Discipline; but the Want of Room for an extended Line of Frontage, and the estimated Expense of the Alteration, are serious Objections. Should, however, the proposed Alteration in the Laws respecting the Imprisonment of Debtors be carried into execution, the first of these Objections will be removed.

12th.—As the Prisoner with us has only a bare Wall behind him, he has no Temptation to look back; no special Provision, therefore, has been made for this Offence.

13th.—The Schoolmaster has a small Apartment in the Mill-yard, in which he frequently instructs and examines the Prisoners as they come off the Wheel. At other Times they sit or walk in a narrow Space below the Wheel. They can see the other Prisoners of their Class; but as they are both below and behind them, they have less Opportunity of conversing with them than when on the Wheel.

14th.—In their Day-rooms or Cells.

15th.—Twenty Prisoners were so confined.

16th.—Six Weeks; Robert Hipper, convicted of stealing Snuff-boxes from a Hawker's Stall. Although but Twelve Years old, he was an old Offender, having been in the habit of pilfering in Norwich Market and other Places.

17th.—They were permitted to read if qualified to do so, and were daily instructed by the Chaplain and Schoolmaster.

18th.—Daily by the Chaplain and Schoolmaster.

19th.—They are exercised One Hour every Day in some Airing-yard, open to the constant Inspection of the Gaoler.

20th.—None whatever.

21st.—I decidedly think it has; but our Prison is not well constructed for solitary Confinement, and it is difficult to exclude Prisoners sentenced to this Punishment from all Communication with the neighbouring Cells, so as to give the Experiment a fair Trial.

22d.—John Spink and George Leech were committed for Housebreaking 14th August 1833, and were convicted the 22d of the March following, and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation. James Peck and George Sudbrooke were committed on the same Day of August for Burglary, and had Death recorded on the 22d March 1834. John Davis was also committed for Burglary 14th August 1833, and was sentenced to Fourteen Years Transportation 22d March 1834. James South was committed for Murder by the Coroner 28th March 1834, and acquitted on the 26th of the following July.

23d.—Fifty-two.

24th.—The

415

No. 9. Questions by the Prisons Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Norfolk.

24th.—The Friends of the convicted Prisoners are allowed to bring them Onions or Radishes; if their Health requires any thing more, it is supplied by the County under the Surgeon's Directions. Unconvicted Felons and Misdemeanants are restricted to the Prison Allowance, with the above Exceptions; but by special Application to the Visiting Justices they may be supplied with other Food, under certain Regulations.

25th.—Every Three Months, and oftener by the special Permission of the Visiting Justices.

26th.—He is permitted to write to them once between their Visits, and oftener by special Permission. Letters sent to them are not withheld from them unless they contain improper Matter, or are unnecessarily frequent.

27th.—The Prisoners committed in the Precincts of the Cathedral are sent to the Castle by an Arrangement entered into by the Magistrates and the Dean and Chapter, and remain there both before and after Trial.

28th.—I should hope that it would sometimes, if Facilities for that Purpose were provided and made known to such Prisoners. I have, however, strongly advised Emigration in several Instances without Success. I fear the Prisoners so advised have not sought for the proper Means, from a Want of Conviction that Emigration would be beneficial to them. If all Difficulties in their Way were removed, they might be induced to accept the Offer. If the penal Settlement were not the same as those to which Prisoners are usually transported for Punishment, the Prejudices of the Prisoners would not be so likely to be opposed to the Measure.

29th.—I have no Doubt that such an Institution would receive the cordial Co-operation of the Magistrates, but I much doubt whether it would be generally acceptable to the Prisoners: in some Cases it would. A Parish with which I am connected lately prevailed upon several of their Poor, by paying for their Passage, to emigrate to North America; but the very Persons whom they most desired to get rid of, *i. e.* those who had been imprisoned, could not be prevailed upon to accept the Offer.

30th.—I think the Plan is much more likely to succeed with juvenile than with adult Offenders. The Want of such a Plan has been long felt, and I have no Doubt of the Co-operation of the Magistrates.

JAMES BROWN, Chaplain.

28th April 1835.

Walsingham.

No. 26.—ANSWERS of Mr. MONEY CURTIS, Keeper of WALSINGHAM County House of Correction, Norfolk.

1st.—No Alteration in 1834; in 1833 Two new Receiving-rooms were built.

2d.—None.

3d.—Six Day-rooms. The Classes are, Felons convicted, Misdemeanors convicted, and Charges of Felony and Charges of Misdemeanor, Vagrants, and on Charges of Capital Offences. Number Thirty-six, or about; appropriated to Day-rooms.

4th.—Forty sleeping Rooms and Cells; none for Debtors.

5th.—Some Rooms One; others Three and Four.

6th.—No Intercourse whatever when at the Wheel, the silent System being adopted. In reference to the latter Questions, Intercourse is allowed.

8th.—Yes, when on the Wheel; Punishment, solitary Confinement.

9th.—Forty-eight; Eight Inches.

10th.—Grinding Corn. It is, with a Dial by Mr. Bate, London.

11th.—It is divided into Four Compartments; separate Wheel for juvenile Offenders.

12th.—No; this is very seldom done.

13th.—He is provided with a Seat; can see his Fellow Prisoners.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th.—Nine.

16th.—Eighteen Months; Felony.

17th.—No, except Reading.

18th.—The Chaplain attends every Morning to read Prayers and a Portion of the Scriptures, and visits the Prisoners according to Circumstances; Governor sometimes twice in the Day, always within Twenty-four Hours.

19th.—Two Hours in a Day in large Airing-yards.

20th.—No.

21st.—Yes, it has.

22d.—Seven Months; an unnatural Crime; sentenced for Two Years.

23d.—Five.

24th.—None whatever, excepting those for Smuggling.

25th.—Yes, once in Three Months.

26th.—Allowed to write about once in Six Months; receive Letters about the same Intervals.

27th.—None whatever that I am aware of.

28th.—Think it would not.

29th.—Think it would. No Doubt but it would receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy.

30th.—Should think not.

MONEY CURTIS, Keeper.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Swaffham.

No. 27.—Answers of Mr. E. A. Johnson, Governor of Swaffham County House of Correction, Norfolk.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Day-rooms have not been used here lately.

4th.—Forty sleeping Cells. No Debtors received here.

5th.—Only One, unless the Number requires more, then Three.

6th.—Yes.

7th.—No Directions have been given by the Magistrates, or Punishment taken place for so doing.

8th.—No.

9th.—The Tread-wheel Labour is adopted, and Forty-eight Steps usually taken in a Minute; Height of Step, Six Inches and a Half.

10th.—Grinding Corn. No Means to show actual Labour performed.

11th & 12th.—No.

13th.—The Prisoner takes his Turn in coming off the Tread-wheel, and rests on a Seat, and can see all of his Class.

14th.—In their Cells.

15th.—Eight; viz. Two for One Month, and Six for Seven Days.

16th.—Month in solitary; Felony.

17th.—None.

18th.—Generally daily, and the Office of the Governor commands the whole Prison.

19th.—Half an Hour Morning and Evening in the Prison Yard appointed for the Class.

20th.—None whatever.

21st.—It has, but not to be compared with what it would do attended with Silence.

22d.—Ninety-nine Days; Rape; acquitted of Capital Charge; Six Calendar Months for the Misdemeanor.

23d.—Twelve in 1834.

24th.—No.

25th.—Yes, if for Six Months Imprisonment, but then only every Three Months.

26th.—Yes, once in Three Months.

27th.—Only here from the Borough of Castle Rising, both before and after Trial; also summary Convictions.

28th.—I think many would avail themselves of it.

29th.—I think very many of the worst of Characters would avail themselves of it, especially if a Portion of their Imprisonment was mitigated; and such an Institution, I have no Doubt, would receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy.

30th.—Emigration, I have no Doubt, would be acceptable to very many juvenile Offenders, and to their Parents and Friends, if Part of the Imprisonment was remitted; and would, no Doubt, receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy.

E. A. Johnson, Governor.

For Remarks and Observations accompanying these Answers, see P. 123.

Norwich.

No. 28.—Answers of Mr. Robert Saraman, Gaoler, Norwich City Gaol and House of Correction, Norfolk.

1st & 2d.—Not any.

3d.—In all, Fourteen. In the Gaol there are Eight Day-rooms and Classes; viz. 1st and 2d Classes for Debtors; 3d, Felons before Trial; 4th, convicted Felons; 5th, Misdemeanors not convicted; 6th, convicted Misdemeanors; 7th, Deserters, &c.; 8th, convicted Felons. Females: Six Classes contain Eight Prisoners in each Class, and the other Six only Five Prisoners in each; the Two Debtors Classes are not included. This Classification varies as the Nature of the Offences do upon which Prisoners may be committed. The Six Classes in the House of Correction are, 1st, convicted Felons, Males; 2d, convicted Felons, Females; 3d, convicted Misdemeanors, Males; 4th, convicted Misdemeanors, Females; 5th, summary Convictions; 6th, Vagrants, &c.

4th.—114.

5th.—Never but One, unless the Prisoner is in an agitated State of Mind, and not fit to be left alone.

6th.—Yes, they do.

7th.—If they are heard talking to each other in their Night Cells they are locked up for One, Two, and Three Days.

8th.—No, not strictly so. If they are caught talking upon the Wheel, they are punished; but in the Day-rooms, Airing-yards, at Meals, &c., it is not punishable.

9th.—The Number of Steps cannot be accurately given, as the Wheel does not act regularly. The Distance from one Step to another is Seven Inches and Three Quarters.

10th.—It raises Water for the Use of the Prison. The Machinery does not exhibit the Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—There are Two Compartments, one for Felons, the other for Misdemeanors. The Felons can see each other; the Misdemeanors the same.

12th.—It is not.

13th.—He

13th.—He sits upon the Steps at either End, or walks up and down the House; can see all the Prisoners in his Compartment.
14th.—In the Day-room of each Class.
15th.—Twelve.
16th.—Three Months, for stealing a Purse containing Ten Pounds.
17th.—Only in Reading.
18th.—By the Governor daily, by the Chaplain twice a Week, and sometimes oftener.
19th.—In One of the Airing-yards about Three Quarters of an Hour Night and Morning, when the other Prisoners are at work.
20th.—Not the least whatever.
21st.—Not any to my Knowledge.
22d.—One laid better than Seven Months, charged with Burglary, and was acquitted last March Assizes.
23d.—Only One beside the One mentioned in Answer 22d.
24th.—All Prisoners before Trial are allowed to receive Three Dinners per Week from their Friends, and to buy Two Half Pints of Beer per Week. Nothing allowed to convicted Prisoners but the Prison Allowance.
25th.—Prisoners convicted, and sentenced to Three Months Imprisonment or longer, are allowed to see a Relation once every Fortnight.
26th.—They are not allowed to write or receive Letters, only upon the Death of a Relative, or something of Consequence happening.
27th.—Not any.
28th.—I think in some Cases it would, but it seldom occurs.
29th.—It would be acceptable, and no Doubt the Magistracy would afford every Facility in furthering the Object.
30th.—I have no Doubt it would, in both respects.

ROBERT SARAMAN, Gaoler.

Norwich.

No. 29.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN GRANT, Governor of NORTHAMPTON County Gaol and House of Correction.

Northampton.

1st.—None.
2d.—Answered in the 6th and 26th Questions.
3d.—Thirteen; Two for Debtors, Two for Females, and Nine for Males; the Average is about Eleven.
4th.—Eighty-three.
5th.—If more than One, Three.
6th.—Silence is enforced at all Times as much as possible, according to the present Number of Cells, not being able to lock them up separately; we have no Night Watchman, but the Turnkeys are constantly on the alert.
7th.—A Superintendent is appointed to watch them during the Day.
8th.—Yes; and frequently locked up in solitary Confinement for several Hours.
9th.—Fifty Steps; the Height of each Step Seven Inches.
10th.—Pumping of Water. No Regulation as to the Labour.
11th & 12th.—No.
13th.—Stands up with his Face towards the Wheel, and can see other Prisoners.
14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th.—Twelve.
16th.—Three Months; Breach of the Articles of War; sentenced by Court-martial at Weedon Barracks.
17th.—No.
18th.—By the Gaoler several Times in the Day, and by the Chaplain most Days of the Week.
19th.—Two Hours and a Half in Winter, and about Six Hours Labour; in Summer Four Hours, and Ten Hours Labour. The Exercise is taken in the different Wards belonging to the different Classes.
20th.—No.
21st.—The Prisoners seem to dread it exceedingly, and I have no Doubt it will have a beneficial Effect.
22d.—From 14th July to 1st March; feloniously stealing a Silver Hunting Watch, the Property of his Master; Fourteen Years Transportation.
23d.—Thirteen.
24th.—Before Trial.
25th.—Prisoners convicted or committed in execution are not allowed to see their Relations but once in Three Months; if sentenced or committed in execution for a shorter Period, they will not be allowed to see any Person during his or her Confinement.
26.—Allowed to write twice a Week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, and to receive Letters from their Friends after being examined by the Governor.
27th.—No.
28th.—I think it would, with many of them.
29th.—I have no Doubt many of the Prisoners would gladly accept the Offer. I think there

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

there is no Reason to doubt but that the Magistrates would do all in their Power to facilitate the Object of such an Institution.

30th.—I have no Reason to doubt it would be accepted by juvenile Offenders, and also that of their Friends, and that the Magistrates would act as above stated.

JOHN GRANT, Governor.

Oxford.

No. 30.—ANSWERS of Mr. JAMES GRANT, Governor of OXFORD County Gaol and House of Correction.

1st.—None.
2d.—New Rules.
3d.—Eleven Yards, and Day-room to each Yard.
4th.—One hundred and thirty-six.
5th.—One generally.
6th.—In the Daytime.
7th.—None but their Superintendents and Turnkeys.
8th.—Not unless to Excess, then confined in a dark Cell for Three Days.
9th.—Forty Steps in a Minute; Height, Seven Inches.
10th.—None. Yes, a Dial.
11th.—None.
12th.—No.
13th.—Sit down. Yes.
14th.—In the Day-rooms.
15th.—Seventeen.
16th.—One Month. Various.
17th.—None.
18th.—Daily.
19th.—Two Hours per Day at the Water-wheel.
20th.—None.
21st.—Yes.
22d.—Five Months; Horse-stealing; transported for Life.
23d.—Forty-two.
24th.—Before Trial.
25th.—Yes, once in Three Months.
26th.—Yes, any Time.
27th.—None.
28th.—No Opportunity of judging.
29th.—The Magistrates would throw no Obstacle in the Way.
30th.—Answer as above.

JAMES GRANT, Governor.

Shropshire.

No. 31.—ANSWERS of the GOVERNOR of SHROPSHIRE County Gaol.

1st.—An additional Accommodation Room for Visitors to Debtors, and a Wall to prevent Intercourse between Male and Female Prisoners.
2d.—An additional Class for juvenile Offenders.
3d.—Day-rooms, Twenty-six.
4th.—One hundred and fifty-seven.
5th.—One.
6th.—In the Daytime, but not at Night, Silence is particularly observed in the Prison.
7th & 8th.—Punishment by solitary Confinement not exceeding Three Days.
9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—No Tread-wheel, but a Mill on the Capstan Principle.
14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—None confined.
22d.—Two hundred Days; Horse-stealing; transported for Life.
23d.—Thirty.
24th.—Before Trial, if he gives up the County Allowance, but not after Trial.
26th.—Once a Month, between the Hours of Work.
27th.—Local Jurisdictions sending Prisoners pay their own Expenses.
28th.—Yes.
29th.—We are of opinion that such an Institution would be acceptable to the destitute Offenders in general, and that such a Plan would be approved of by the Magistracy of this County, but until we know to what Extent their Co-operation is required we are unable to answer the latter Part of this Query.
30th.—We believe that the Plan would be partially acceptable to the juvenile Offenders alluded to, but upon this Subject much would of course depend upon the Opinion of their Parents. With regard to the Question of Co-operation, we must give the same Answer as upon the former Query.

No. 32.—Answers of F. B. Morgan, Governor of Shepton Mallett County House of Correction, Somerset.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Shepton Mallett.

1st.—No Alteration has taken place in the Year 1834.

2d.—No Change has occurred in the Discipline of the Prison during the Year 1834.

3d.—Number of Day-rooms Eighteen, and are appropriated to all Classes of Prisoners.

4th.—Number of sleeping Rooms Twenty-seven, and Cells Forty-five, for all Classes of Prisoners, but no Debtors are confined in this Gaol.

5th.—Number of Prisoners confined in One Apartment at Night is from Five to Twelve.

6th.—No separate or single Apartments are provided for Prisoners; they have an Intercourse only in the Yards and sleeping Rooms in which they are confined, and from Five to Twelve only are confined in those Apartments.

7th.—No Steps are taken to prevent this Intercourse.

8th.—No Order has ever been received to punish any Prisoner for speaking to others.

9th.—The Diameter of the Tread-wheel is Five Feet, the Distance between the Steps is Eight Inches, and the Number of Steps is Twenty-four; the Number of Steps in One Minute is Thirty-six.

10th.—The Wheel is applied to the grinding Corn, and there is no regulating of the Amount of Labour performed by the Tread-wheel.

11th.—There are Six Compartments, about Twelve confined in each; one Prisoner is not prevented from seeing another.

12th.—No Orders have been received to punish a Prisoner for looking back on the Wheel, but there are Guards always present to prevent it as much as possible.

13th.—Fifteen Minutes at work on the Wheel, and Five off; can see the other Prisoners at work when sat down to rest.

14th.—Prisoners take their Meals in the Day-rooms.

15th.—Fourteen Prisoners were placed in solitary Confinement in 1834, agreeable to the Sentence.

16th.—Longest Period of solitary Confinement was a Fortnight; convicted of stealing from a Person a Watch.

17th.—No Occupation in Solitude.

18th.—Visited by the Turnkey when in Solitude Three Times a Day with Provision, but by no other Person.

19th.—Prisoners are not allowed to take Exercise while in Solitude.

20th.—No injurious Effects have been produced on the Mind or Health of any Prisoner by Solitude.

21st.—Solitude has produced good Effect in many Instances.

22d.—Seven Months before Trial, and then transported for Life, for assaulting and robbing on the Highway.

23d.—Twenty-five Prisoners have been confined for Three Months and upwards before Trial.

24th.—Persons for Trial are allowed to provide themselves, but no other has any but the County Allowance.

25th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to receive Visits when Half of their Time is expired.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to write and receive Letters, if inspected by the Governor.

27th.—Persons may be sent here from local Jurisdiction either before or after Trial.

28th.—There are Thirty-seven Persons now confined here, who would willingly accept such an Offer on being discharged from Prison when their Time expires.

29th.—If such an Institution was formed it would have the most beneficial Effect, and there can be no Doubt but it would meet the ready Co-operation of the Magistracy.

30th.—There can be no Doubt but the Friends of juvenile Offenders, as well as the Offenders themselves, would generally avail themselves of such an Institution, as it is for Want of Labour generally that they commit Offences.

F. B. Morgan, Governor.

16th April 1835.

No. 33.—Answers of Mr. William Kirk, Keeper of Woodbridge County House of Correction, Suffolk.

Woodbridge.

1st.—None whatever.

2d.—None.

3d.—One Room in each Ward appropriated as a Day-room. We have no Classes, consequently all the Prisoners congregate together, except Male and Female.

4th.—Fourteen sleeping Cells. In Cases of Emergency the Two Day-rooms, being of the same Construction as the others, with the Addition of Fire-places, are used as sleeping Rooms.

5th.—Usually but One; sometimes Two; occasionally, if Juniors, Three.

6th.—Intercourse not prohibited by Day, except by Order of Visiting Justices. No regular Meals. No Work carried on. Each Cell is locked at Bed-time, which depends on the Length of Day.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Woodbridge.

7th.—When ordered apart, it is usual to confine the Prisoner to be separated from the rest in the Female Side of the Prison, which is most commonly vacant.

8th.—Not punishable.

9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—Nothing applicable, there being no Mill.

14th.—The Day's Allowance is given in each Morning; the Prisoners eat it at their Option, when and where, within their Range.

15th.—Six within the Year; none exceeding Fourteen Days. The Period of solitary Confinement is mostly a Sixth Part of the Time of Imprisonment.

16th.—Fourteen Days; stealing from a Dwelling House by Day.

17th.—No Work, except pumping for the Use of the House and Prison; then not in solitary Confinement.

18th.—From Four to Six Times a Day by the Keeper; Three Times weekly by the Chaplain.

19th.—For an Hour, Morning and Evening; Exercise in the Yard between the Two Prison Yards.

20th.—None.

21st.—Have not had a Prisoner convicted a Second Time who had previously undergone a Punishment of the Kind.

22d.—Twelve Weeks.

23d.—None over Three Months. Sessions are held quarterly.

24th.—Prisoners for Trial or in default of Bail are allowed from their Friends, or by urchase, any temperate Aliment.

25th.—Monthly, or oftener, by Magistrates Order.

26th.—Allowed to send or receive Letters, all of which are inspected.

27th.—None.

28th.—From the general Demeanor of Offenders, particularly young and friendless, should think such an Offer would be gladly accepted.

29th & 30th.—The Magistrates would sanction such an Institution, and are of opinion that itwould have a beneficial Result.

WILLIAM KIRK, Keeper.

7th May 1835.

HorsemongerLane.

No. 34.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN KEENE, Governor of SURREY County Gaol, Horsemonger Lane.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Ten Day-rooms. Class 1, Females committed on Charge of Felony; Class 2, Females committed on Charge of Misdemeanor, or for Want of Sureties; Class 3, Females convicted of Felony, and Transports; Class 4, Males, Boys, committed on Charge of Felony; Class 5, Males committed under summary Convictions for Assaults, and Prisoners under Sentence of a Court, convicted of Misdemeanor; Class 6, Males committed on charge of Felony, or Transports; Class 7, Males, the like; Class 8, Males, the like; Class 9, Males committed for Re-examination; Class 10, Males committed on Charge of Misdemeanor, or for Want of Sureties. The Number of Prisoners in Custody at this Gaol fluctuates so frequently that the latter Part of this Question cannot be correctly answered.

4th.—Two hundred and thirty sleeping Rooms and Cells.

5th.—The Prisoners are confined separately at Night, excepting occasionally when the Gaol is crowded, and then Three are placed in a Cell to provide sufficient Accommodation. This Answer does not apply to the Debtors, who are confined from One to Five in Rooms of different Sizes, as the Number in Custody requires.

6th.—The Prisoners remain together in their Day-rooms and Airing-yards from the Time they are let down from their sleeping Cells in the Morning until they are locked up in them again at Night.

7th.—None.

8th.—It is not.

9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—There is no Tread-wheel nor any Description of Labour carried on in the Gaol.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—No Prisoner was sentenced to be placed in solitary Confinement during the past Year.

22d.—James Charlwood; committed 7th August 1834; charged with Highway Robbery; tried at the Lent Assize 30th March 1835; convicted of Larceny; sentenced to be transported Seven Years.

23d.—Twenty-one; Prisoners committed for Trial at the Assizes.

24th.—Convicted Prisoners are kept strictly on the Prison Allowance, but Prisoners committed for Trial are allowed to maintain themselves.

25th.—Prisoners convicted of Felony receive Visits from their Friends once a Week by an Order from a Visiting Magistrate; Prisoners in Custody under summary Convictions for Nonpayment of Penalties receive Visits from their Friends every Day except Sunday.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to write or receive Letters from their Friends at any Time, under the Inspection of the Governor.

27th.—Prisoners are committed to this Gaol by the local Magistrates of Guildford and Kingston-upon-Thames.

28th.—I

28th.—I think in some Instances it would.

29th.—I cannot say that such a Measure would be generally accepted by the Prisoners.

30th.—I fear that very few of the juvenile Offenders would accept of the Offers of such an Institution, and that their Parents or Friends would generally object.

JOHN KEENE, Governor.

18th April 1835.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

No. 35.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN SIBLY, Governor of BRIXTON County House of Correction, Surrey.

Brixton.

1st.—Thirty-six new Cells have been made from the Work-rooms.

2d. Silence has been more strictly enforced, and some useful Regulations made respecting the Labour, but particularly with regard to those whose Turn it might be to be off the Wheels.

3d.—There are Ten Classes and Ten Day-rooms. Nothing can be said respecting the Number or Description of the Prisoners to which they are appropriated. Our Classes and Wheels are of different Sizes, and the Prisoners are changed from one Class to another, as may be required, to preserve the Regularity of the Labour, and to keep every Wheel full. It is to be understood that the Classification in these Changes is still preserved; but, as the Number of Prisoners varies every Day, one Class would work twice as hard as another if they were not changed.

4th.—The Number of single Cells is 148, and Twelve others which contain Three Bedsteads each; we have no other sleeping Rooms (except in the Hospitals), and we have no Debtors.

5th.—We have on the Average about Twenty Men's Cells with Three Males in each, and Fifteen Women's, with Two or Three in each. In consequence of the ever-varying Number of the Prisoners, these Numbers are daily changing also.

6th.—We have no other Work but the Tread-wheel. During the Hours of Labour the strictest Silence is preserved among those who work, but there are many Prisoners who are absent from the Officer's Eye, and who therefore cannot be prevented from talking; these are the Wardsmen, Prisoners in the Hospitals, or those employed in various Duties about the Gardens, &c., Women in the Wash-house and Laundry, or in the Day-rooms at Needle-work, &c. &c. No separate Hours are appropriated to Exercise only, the Tread-wheel combining Labour and Exercise. Our Breakfast occupies only Half an Hour; the Prisoners are permitted to take that Meal in the Day-rooms without the Presence of an Officer; during the Dinner Hour they are placed in their Cells, Two Officers being placed in the Galleries; but here they are in many Instances Three in each Cell, and consequently cannot be prevented from talking in a low Tone. The Prisoners are locked up in the Evening immediately on leaving Work; and there being no Officers then in the Galleries, they constantly talk from one Cell to another if single, or if trebled they can of course most readily converse with their Companions.

7th.—We have an Officer in each Class (except Four small Classes which are under the Charge of Two) whose particular Duty it is to preserve Silence; but, as before observed, he can only do so with those immediately about him; he is, besides, frequently called from his Station on many different Duties, such as regulating the Bedding and inspecting the Cells, arranging the Prisoners Clothing, attending those of his Class who are to visit the Surgeon, on the Calls of Nature, &c. &c.; the Class during these Intervals is left under the Charge of a Prisoner.

8th.—The Act of speaking is visited by Punishment if repeated; on the first Occasion it is merely checked. We have no other Punishment but that commanded by the Act of Parliament, viz. confining Prisoners in the refractory or solitary Cells, and keeping them on Bread and Water.

9th.—The Maximum is Forty-eight Steps per Minute, but there is great Difficulty in regulating this exactly; we generally go Forty-five or Forty-six; the Height of the Step is Seven and a Half Inches.

10th.—To grinding Corn. The Velocity of the Machinery is regulated by the Miller, whose long Experience enables him to do so tolerably correctly; he is, however, wholly dependent on his Ear, and consequently it is very liable to Variation. There is no Instrument to exhibit the Amount of Labour.

11th.—It is not; our Wheels would only contain about Four Fifths of the Number of Prisoners which they contain at present if they were divided in Compartments, and I apprehend in that Case great Difficulty would arise in keeping an Account of each Prisoner's Work.

12th.—Not unless repeated. I would observe, that the Prisoners when at work here stand sideways to the Walk, as well as to the greatest Part of the Yards, to which Places their Attention is most likely to be attracted.

13th.—He sits on a Stool placed in front of the Wheel; he can see (but not converse with) the other Prisoners.

14th.—Vide Answer No. 6.

15th.—Sixty.

16th.—Fourteen Days; various Felonies.

17th.—They are provided with Books if able to read at all; nothing else.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Brixton.

18th.—By the Governor every Day; by the Chaplain Four Times a Week. Much Misconception exists respecting Prisoners in solitary Confinement; no Prisoner can be confined wholly solitary without much more Attention and Expense than would be found practicable for a great Number. The Prisoner is visited by the Turnkey the first Thing in the Morning, who gives him Water to wash, and takes his Bed out of the Cell (the former of these Two Things might be provided for without a personal Visit, but the latter could not); he is visited Three Times a Day with Meals (these should and might be given without personal Communication); he is visited by the Surgeon when necessary, and twice by the Turnkey, who releases those who are confined for more than Seven Days (after the first Seven Days) to walk for One Hour in the Galleries, and to shut them up again. Prisoners in solitary Confinement are also taken to Chapel every Morning, and are visited by the Turnkey shortly after Breakfast, for Reasons which need not be explained.

19th.—Vide above.

20th.—None whatever; no Fear need be entertained, with the most simple Regulations.

21st.—It is impossible to say distinctly. The Seed only is sown here; the Fruit does not ripen (if it ever does) until after their Departure. But this is certain,—all Irritation is prevented during Confinement; no Opening is given for the Exercise of Fraud, Falsehood, and the Multitude of Evil to which Tread-wheel Labour gives Scope; the Prisoner's Mind is given over to Reflection, the same Amount of Punishment is inflicted in less Time, and it leaves a greater Dread after Infliction; it is the only simple, real, and natural Punishment to which a rational Being should be consigned; all other Systems of Discipline are merely Approximations. The Advantages of solitary Confinement over every other Description of Punishment must be obvious on the slightest Consideration; the Certainty alone of the Prevention of Contamination appears to me to be of sufficient Importance to destroy every Objection that can be raised against it. Mental Punishment is the only proper Punishment that should be inflicted on a rational Being; bodily Punishment is and must be the Source of a Thousand Falsehoods every Day, in endeavouring to deceive the Surgeon and obtain a Remission from Labour; with Women it is peculiarly so. One Instance will suffice to show what I mean by the Opening which bodily Punishment affords. Suppose every Woman declared herself to be enceinte on her Arrival in Prison, a Fortnight must elapse before the Fraud can be detected (she has obtained this Remission as the Price of her Falsehood) and then only by affording another Excuse from the Labour of the Wheel; thus Three Weeks on the Average will pass away before the Prisoner can with Certainty be brought to work, and Three Weeks is the average Length of a Woman's Imprisonment in the House of Correction. If, as I believe, the Punishment of solitary Confinement increases in Severity in Geometrical Proportion to the Time it is endured, the Period necessary to inflict the same Quantum will be considerably shortened on long Confinements; therefore I believe that, if this Species of Punishment is adopted, nearly Half the Prisons in this Kingdom might be pulled down. Solitary Confinement is therefore less expensive; it puts the Prisoners in the right Road, and, when its Effects fail to be salutary, under the most simple Management it cannot be detrimental.

22d & 23d.—No Prisoners are sent here before Trial.

24th.—No, except in Cases of Sickness per Order of the Surgeon.

25th.—One Day per Week, by Order from a Visiting Magistrate, in Presence of an Officer of the Prison; they are not allowed to approach nearer than about Four Feet.

26th.—Yes, at his own Discretion, and Paper, Pens, and Ink are supplied to him; all Letters are inspected by the Governor.

27th.—We have a Van which goes to Horsemonger Lane and Union Hall Police Office daily for the Conveyance of Prisoners.

28th.—Very few, I apprehend.

29th.—I think few Prisoners would go; it is only Persons who have been accustomed to travel who will consent to go in this Way unless some Encouragement is held out to them.

30th.—To some few only.

JOHN SIBLY, Governor.

1st April 1835.

Guildford.

No. 36.—ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM KEENE, Governor of GUILDFORD County House of Correction, Surrey.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—One Day-room, appropriated to the Female Prisoners with Children, if any.

4th.—Seventy-seven sleeping Cells for Male Prisoners, and Twelve for Female Prisoners; Debtors none.

5th.—Nine of the Cells contain Three Male Prisoners each when the Number of Prisoners is large; at other Periods they are confined separately, excepting the Female Prisoners, who are more frequently confined Two in a Cell.

5th.—Silence is strictly enforced when at labour; at other Periods, when locked in their Cells, there is much Difficulty in preventing them from holding Intercourse with each other.

7th.—Dark Confinement, and kept on Bread and Water only.

8th.—If a Prisoner at work on the Wheel is not quiet when desired to be so by the Turnkey, he is deprived of his Turn for Rest when he has worked through the Wheel.

9th.—The

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Guildford.

9th.—The Tread-wheel Labour is adopted; Forty-eight Steps are taken in a Minute, and the Height of each Step is Seven and a Half Inches.

10th.—The Tread-wheel is applied to grinding of Corn, and when not supplied with Corn it is applied to working a Fly-wheel. No Means are provided for regulating and exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th & 12th.—No.

13th.—A Seat in front of the Wheel is provided for those who are off the Wheel, which does not prevent them from seeing other Prisoners.

14th.—Separately in their Cells.

15th.—Eight Males and Four Females.

16th.—One Calendar Month; Offence, Felony.

17th.—The Prisoners in Solitude are not employed. A Bible is given to those who can read.

18th.—Daily.

19th.—The Prisoners are confined to their Cells when not at labour.

20th.—None.

21st.—I am not able to say that it has.

22d.—No Prisoners committed for Trial.

23d.—No Prisoners committed before Trial.

24th.—No.

25th.—Yes, once a Week, if sanctioned by a Visiting Magistrate.

26th.—Yes, at any Time, under the Inspection of the Governor.

27th.—The Mayor and Magistrates of the Town of Guildford commit to the County Prisons.

28th.—I think some would accept of the Offer.

29th.—I think it might.

30th.—I think it would be accepted by some of the juvenile Offenders. With regard to their Friends, I am not able to give an Opinion; I have no Doubt it would be approved of by the Magistracy.

WILLIAM KEENE, Governor.

9th April 1835.

Kingston-on-Thames.

No. 37.—ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM RITCHIE, Keeper of KINGSTON-ON-THAMES House of Correction, Surrey.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—One Day-room each for Male, One for Female Prisoners, besides large Yards for Exercise when not engaged at work. Two Classes; Prisoners under summary Convictions, and such as are intended to be examined as Witnesses on behalf of the Crown.

4th.—Four large sleeping Rooms each, for Men and Women; Size Fourteen by Eighteen Feet; no Debtors.

5th.—From Four to Six Persons in each; at Times more; at Times less.

6th.—Yes.

7th.—No Objection to rational Conversation; no singing or improper Language allowed.

8th.—No, unless objectionable as above. Immoral Conduct is punished by solitary Confinement for One, Two, or Three Days if necessary, or in lieu thereof the Stoppage of a Portion of the Food.

9th.—No Tread-wheel or any compulsory Labour at this Prison. See the Reports of such Keepers whose Prisons have the Wheel in operation.

10th.—No Tread-wheel at this Prison.

11th.—See Keepers Reports from such Prisons as have the Tread-wheel.

12th & 13th.—See Keepers Reports from such Prisons as have the Tread-wheel in operation.

14th.—In this Prison, in the Mess-rooms or in the Yards.

15th.—None.

16th.—Three Days when punished by solitary Confinement for unruly Behaviour in the Yards, improper Conduct at Chapel, and other Acts calculated to destroy the good Order of the Prison.

17th.—None.

18th.—Three and Four Times a Day, and oftener if necessary.

19th.—When not under the above Punishment, they have free Use of the Yards from Seven o'Clock in the Morning till Seven in the Evening, excepting when occupied at voluntary Work, such as Skewer, Vent-peg, and Door-mat making, which is always going on.

20th.—None.

21st.—In most Instances it has generally produced improved Conduct for the Remainder of the Individual's Period of Imprisonment.

22d.—This Question is more immediately applicable to the Keeper of the Common or County Gaol.

23d.—The Keeper of the Common Gaol can answer this Question.

24th.—Not unless ordered by the Surgeon in case of Sickness.

 25th.—All

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Kingston-on-Thames.

25th.—All Prisoners here allowed to see their Friends between the Hours of Twelve and One o'Clock daily, Sundays excepted.

26th.—At all Times; the Correspondence, however, always examined either Way previously by the Keeper.

27th.—Yes.

28th.—In some few Instances it might.

29th.—To some few Prisoners it might, but by no means would it be generally acceptable. The Magistracy would in all Probability co-operate.

30th.—To the Parents and Friends it would doubtless be generally acceptable, but to Offenders not so. The Magistracy, I should imagine, would encourage such an Institution.

WILLIAM RITCHIE, Keeper.

Horsham.

No. 38.—ANSWERS from the KEEPER of HORSHAM County Gaol, Sussex.

1st.—None.

2d.—Prisoners are prevented from holding any Conversation with each other.

3d.—There are Eight Day-rooms. First Class, Male Debtors; Second Class, Female Debtors; Third Class, Male Felons; Fourth Class, Male Misdemeanants; Fifth Class, convicted Felons; Sixth Class, convicted Misdemeanants; Seventh Class, Females before and after Trial.

4th.—There are Fifty-nine sleeping Cells, including those for Debtors.

5th.—One Prisoner to each Cell; if the Number of Prisoners is more than the Number of Cells, then Three Prisoners are put in One Cell.

6th.—No Prisoner is allowed to hold any Intercourse with another; and if a Prisoner speaks to another he is checked by the Turnkey, and if he persists in it he is punished by being locked up in his Cell.

7th.—Turnkeys are with them when at work, taking their Meals and Exercise.

8th.—If one Prisoner speaks to another, unless it is required, while at work, he is immediately checked, and if he persists in so doing he is confined to his sleeping Cell.

9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—Refers to the Keepers of the Houses of Correction.

14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in the Day-rooms.

15th.—Five Prisoners have been sentenced to solitary Confinement.

16th.—Two for Three Weeks, Two for Fourteen Days, and One for Seven Days for Felonies; but their Sentences could not be carried into execution, as there is no solitary Cell in the Prison; they were confined to their sleeping Cells.

17th.—None.

18th.—Once a Day.

19th.—One Hour in the Day.

20th.—None.

21st.—I believe Solitude to be the greatest Punishment that can be given to a Prisoner, and from the short Periods they have had in this Prison it has been of good Effect.

22d.—Edward Tistar was confined before Trial from 29th of March to 26th of July; he was convicted of Horse-stealing, and sentenced to Transportation for Life.

23d.—Six Prisoners have been confined for Three Months and upwards before they have taken their Trial.

24th.—Prisoners before Trial are allowed to purchase or receive Provision from their Friends, but convicted Prisoners are not.

25th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to see their Friends occasionally; the Time between their Visits is not named in the Regulations.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to write and receive Letters at any Time, subject to my Inspection; but they mostly consist of Transports, who are not with me many Days before they are removed to the Hulks.

27th.—The Towns and Ports of Hastings, Winchelsea, Pevensey, and Seaford, who do not pay County Rates, send Prisoners to this Gaol to take their Trial, under Contract with the Eastern Division of the County, at 1*s.* 6*d.* a Day per Head.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—To these Questions it is impossible to give an Opinion, no Prisoner at the present Time being in this Prison to whom the Questions are applicable. At any future Period, if I have Prisoners of that Description, I can put the Question to them, and I think there is little Doubt it will meet the Approbation of the Magistracy.

Petworth.

No. 39.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN MANCE, Keeper of PETWORTH County House of Correction, Sussex.

1st.—Sixty additional Cells have been erected, and Seven made out of the Day-rooms. A new Female Building is now in progress, containing Twelve Cells, a Wash-house, Laundry, and hot Closet; all of which, together with the old Building, is heated by hot Water passing through every Cell, &c. Each Cell has a small Cast-iron Washing Cistern, supplied with Water, which the Prisoners can turn on or off at their Pleasure, except prevented by a Stopcock from the Washing Cistern; the Water runs into a Cast-iron Water Closet, with a Double Stink-trap, to preserve the Purity of the Cell, and prevent Communication from one Cell to another; the Cells are ventilated by Air Bricks, and an Inspection Aperture for the perambulating Officer to overlook the Prisoners in their Cells as he passes along the Passages. A Crank House and Machinery for imposing any Degree of Labour upon the Prisoners,

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Petworth.

Prisoners, has been erected and enlarged for the Employment of Thirty Prisoners in separate Compartments.

2d.—None.

3d.—None, the Day-rooms having been converted into Cells, except One for a School-room, and One for a Weaving-room.

4th.—Ninety-seven for Males, and Twelve new ones are building for Females.

5th.—One or Three; but it is intended, when the new Cells are sufficiently dry for their Reception, that only One Prisoner shall sleep in a Cell.

6th.—Yes; but universal Silence will be enforced when the Law shall allow of separate Confinement instead of the Classifications of the Gaol Acts.

7th.—None.

8th.—No.

9th.—See the Report of the Committee, printed in 1827.

11th.—Separate Compartments are being fixed to the Tread-wheels to prevent Communication on the Wheels.

12th.—No.

13th.—The Prisoners off the Wheel as Relays sit in a separate Compartment, where they can see the Prisoners on the Wheel in the Front of their Seat.

14th.—In their Cells.

15th.—Seven.

16th.—One Calendar Month, for uttering counterfeit Coin.

17th.—None.

18th.—Daily by the Governor, when not otherwise employed at the Sessions or County Business, and by the Chaplain every other Day.

19th.—Never, except to and from the Chapel daily for Divine Service; but their Cells allow of Exercise, being Thirteen Feet by Ten Feet, and Nine Feet high.

20th.—None.

21st.—They are generally better behaved in Solitude, and more desirous of Instruction; but on their returning to the Society of their Fellow Prisoners, it soon wears off.

22d.—Three Months; charged with Felony; no true Bill.

23d.—Six.

24th.—Unconvicted Prisoners are allowed to procure their own Food; but when they do so the Prison Food is stopped from them.

25th.—On the first Monday in every Month, and as often as their Friends apply for a Visiting Justice's Order.

26th.—Whenever he pleases.

27th.—Prisoners under Sentence to hard Labour are received from the City of Chichester.

28th.—About One in Twenty would gladly accept such an Offer.

29th.—This will not be generally acceptable until a more efficient Discipline be enforced in our Prisons.

30th.—No; but I am not competent to give an Opinion as to the Co-operation of the Magistracy.

JOHN MANCE, Keeper.

6th April 1835.

No. 40.—ANSWERS of Mr. THOMAS ANCELL, Keeper of LEWES County House of Correction, Sussex.

Lewes.

1st.—Since the Commencement of the Year 1834 the Boundary Wall of the Prison has been greatly extended. An entire new Wing has been built for the Female Prisoners and Officers, so as to detach them entirely from the Male Prison. That Part of the Prison which was before occupied by the Female Prisoners has been converted into Cells for the Male Prisoners, and a new Wing has been built for the Male Prisoners, so that there are now in the whole (including Five solitary Cells) 136 single sleeping Cells. A new Chapel has also been built, capable of containing 200 Prisoners, with proper kneeling Places, and a Gallery for Magistrates. There is a Privy and Water laid on to every Cell. The pumping of Water for this Purpose is found to be a useful Employment for Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour who cannot be placed on the Tread-wheel. The whole of the Prison is heated by hot Water Pipes.

2d.—Since the Improvements have been completed every Prisoner sleeps and takes his Meals in a separate Cell. The old Day-rooms are fitted up with Six Beds each, to be used in case of Emergency only, and then for Vagrants. Strict Silence is enjoined at all Times except during Instruction.

3d.—The Use of Rooms as Day-rooms is abolished.

4th.—There are no Debtors in this Prison; there are 136 Cells, and Silence is required, so that Classification is rendered unnecessary, and it is hoped that thereby moral Contamination is wholly prevented in this Prison.

5th.—Since the Completion of the Improvements, only One Prisoner in each Cell.

6th.—Answered before.

7th & 8th.—A Breach of the Order for Silence is punished by solitary Confinement as far as the Gaol Act will allow. The Magistrates, at their last Epiphany Quarter Sessions, made

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Lewes.

the following Rules:—"Silence.—No Prisoner shall be permitted on any Account, or under any Pretence, to speak to or hold any Communication with any other Prisoner, without special Leave for that Purpose first obtained from the Keeper. The Keeper may order any Prisoner guilty of a Breach of this Rule to be deprived of his or her Supper, or placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days." These Rules were confirmed by the Judges of Assize at Wakefield in the Spring of 1834, and have been recently confirmed by the Judges of Assize for Sussex, as regards this Prison. Printed Papers are stuck up in numerous Parts of the Prison, with the Words, "Silence to be kept."

9th.—The Tread-wheel Labour is adopted for Male Prisoners, and it is regulated by Mance's Ergometer. The Height of each Step is Seven and a Half Inches; Steps taken in a Minute Fifty-one in Summer, and Fifty-eight in Winter. The Hours of Labour are, Ten Hours in Summer, Eight Hours and Three Quarters in Spring and Autumn, and Seven in Winter.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied to the grinding of Wheat into Flour, and the Machinery regulates and exhibits the Amount of Labour performed. It is much wished that the Tread-wheel Labour could be rendered more profitable.

11th.—The Tread-wheel is not fitted up with Compartments, but the Prisoners are under constant Control and Inspection of a Turnkey. The Visiting Justices have directed the County Surveyor to inspect the Tread-wheels at Brixton, with the Intention of adopting Tread-wheel Compartments in this Prison.

12th.—Not at present.

13th.—The Prisoner, when he rests, either walks about or sits down; he can then see the other Prisoners.

14th.—In separate Cells.

15th.—Forty-one Prisoners were placed in solitary Confinement in the last Year by Sentence.

16th.—The longest Period of solitary Confinement was One Month, and the Offence was Felony. There was also a Soldier of the First or Royal Dragoons sentenced to Three Calendar Months solitary Confinement by Court-martial.

17th.—Solitary Prisoners had no Employment except Religious Books to read, by Order of the Chaplain.

18th.—Solitary Prisoners are visited by the Keeper every Day, by the Chaplain twice or Three Times a Week, and by the Visiting Justices once a Month, and sometimes oftener.

19th—Solitary Prisoners take One Hour's Exercise, each by himself, in an Airing-yard.

20th.—I have never found any injurious Effect to be produced by solitary Confinement on the Mind or Health of a Prisoner.

21st.—I think Solitude has produced Contrition, and I have seldom known a Prisoner who has undergone solitary Confinement re-committed.

22d.—Ten Weeks was the longest Period in the last Year during which a Prisoner was confined previously to Trial; that was for Felony, and he was sentenced to Four Calendar Months Imprisonment, the last Fortnight solitary, the rest hard Labour. Intermediate Sessions are usually held each Quarter, so that now no Prisoner is confined before Trial more than Six Weeks.

23d.—Not any.

24th.—Prisoners for Trial are allowed to have Tea or Dinner at their own Expense, beyond their Prison Rations, but no Extravagance is permitted. There is no cooking within the Prison, except the Prison Rations.

25th.—Convicted Prisoners (under Rule 16 of the Gaol Act) are allowed to receive their Friends, in the Presence of the Keeper or Turnkey, not oftener than once a Month, and then only by an Order of a Magistrate.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners and their Friends are allowed to correspond, subject always to the Perusal and Approbation of the Keeper.

27th.—Cinque Port Prisoners are received, paying for Maintenance, &c. 1*s.* 6*d.* per Day.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—I must defer answering these Questions until I have consulted the Visiting Justices, who will meet here on the 22d Instant.

The Chaplain has no ecclesiastical Duty except the Chaplaincy to the Prison. He reads Prayers every Morning and Evening, on every secular Day, and gives Two full Services on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday, and Fast and Thankgiving Days, with a Sermon at each. The Sacrament is administered in the Chapel at proper Times, and he devotes four Hours a Day to the Prison, on an Average, throughout the Year.

The Visiting Justices attend regularly once a Month, and inspect the Prison, in strict Conformity with Section 16 of the Gaol Act, and frequently at other Times. The Keeper sends to the Visiting Justices a weekly Return of the Number of Prisoners in the Form contained in the annexed Paper. At a Petty Sessions held weekly at Lewes, Prisoners are examined, and Passes given to them, under 5th Geo. 4. C. 85.

Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour, and who cannot maintain themselves, are employed in the Factory under a Taskmaster.

THOMAS ANCELL, Keeper.

No. 41.—Answers of Mr. William Townsend, Governor of Warwick County House of Correction.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Warwick.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Seven; viz. Three to the convicted Felons, One to the Boys, One before final Conviction, One for Vagrants, for One Misdemeanors, Four to the Females.

4th.—Fifty-eight; no Debtors.

5th.—Four, Six, and Eight.

6th.—Silence is enforced during the Time they are at work, and at no other Time.

7th.—Being under the constant Superintendence of a Turnkey.

8th.—No, unless when at Work. Punishment for which is Three Days solitary Confinement on Bread and Water.

9th.—Fifty-two Steps per Minute; Height of each Step Eight Inches and a Half.

10th.—Pumping Water for the Use of the Prisoners. Yes.

11th & 12th.—No.

13th.—He associates with his fellow Prisoners in the Day-room or Yard.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th.—None.

16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—See 15th.

22d.—This being a House of Correction, there are very few for Trial, and those only Bastardy Cases.

23d.—None.

24th.—No.

25th.—Yes, once in the Week.

26th.—Yes, twice in the Week.

27th.—There is no other Prison except the County Gaol.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—I think not.

13th April 1835. William Townsend, Governor.

No. 42.—Answers of Mr. Thomas Thwaites, Keeper of Appleby County Prison, Westmoreland.

Appleby.

1st.—A Steam Apparatus for cooking, and a Tread-wheel.

2d.—A Dietary, strict Silence and Non-intercourse, and Prayers twice a Day.

3d.—Ten; Three for Females, One for Debtors, One for Female Debtors, Five for Felons and Misdemeanors.

4th.—Thirty-three Rooms and Cells.

5th.—Only One, except Debtors or Females; seldom more than One of them.

6th.—No.

7th.—Constantly watched by myself, Turnkey, and Matron.

8th.—Supper or other Meal withheld for first Offence; after, solitary Confinement.

9th.—Fifty or Sixty; sometimes more; Height, Eight Inches; have no Means of regulating the Speed at present.

10th.—Pumping Water; have no Means of regulating or exhibiting Labour as yet.

11th.—No.

12th.—A Meal withheld.

13th.—On a Bench; can see all the Prisoners on the Wheel.

14th.—Every one in a separate Cell.

15th.—None.

16th.—None confined.

17th.—None.

18th.—For Offences in the Prison, I have visited them every Two Hours.

19th.—They are Ten Hours on the Wheel; in Winter from Daylight till dark; Two Hours, Meals; One Hour, Chapel; no Time is allowed for other Exercise, except Two Hours on Sunday.

20th.—None.

21st.—Yes, they are more orderly afterwards.

22d.—Six Weeks; Housebreaking; guilty; transported for Life.

23d.—None.

24th.—No.

25th.—At any Time, by a written Order from a Visiting Magistrate.

26th.—At all Times, subject to Examination.

27th.—Yes, from Kendal; County Prisoners all to be sent that are committed for One Month and upwards.

28th.—With a very few from this Part of the Country.

29th.—I think not in this County. The Magistrates are always desirous of lending their Assistance for the Benefit of the destitute.

30th.—I have never met with an Instance in this County, during Eleven Years, but where Parents and Friends have viewed with Horror the Idea of the Banishment to a penal Colony of their Children or Friends. Perhaps the Counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland may be considered an Exception to a general Rule. I beg leave to add, I shall feel happy to give any Information in my Power at all Times to your Honourable Committee. I have no Doubt the Magistrates would co-operate with any Institution for the Public Good.

6th April 1835. Thomas Thwaites, Keeper.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Fisherton.

No. 43.—Answers of Mr. William Dowding, Governor of Fisherton County Gaol, Salisbury, Wilts.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—Ten, appropriated to the Prisoners in each Class.
4th.—Ninety-six.
5th.—One, and sometimes Three, when Room is wanted.
6th.—Yes.
7th.—No Steps can be taken in the present State of the Gaol.
8th.—No.
9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—No Tread-wheel.
14th.—In the Day-rooms.
15th.—No Person.
16th.—The whole Year; Assault with Intent to commit a Rape.
17th.—No.
18th. Governor daily; Chaplain reads Prayers every Morning, and reads Prayers and preaches Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday.
19th.—From the Time of being unlocked in the Morning till a Quarter before Sunset in the Evening, daily. Exercise in the Yard appropriated to their Class.
20th.—No Prisoner was sentenced to solitary Confinement during the Year.
21st.—Not to my Knowledge.
22d.—From 8th March to 18th July, for Horse-stealing; acquitted.
23d.—Nineteen in the last Year.
24th.—Yes; what Food they can procure from their Friends.
25th.—Yes; as often as they can get an Order from a Magistrate, not exceeding Three Times a Week.
26th.—Yes; as often as it occurs, subject to Inspection.
27th.—Yes; Prisoners received from the City of New Sarum, pursuant to a Local Act of Parliament.
28th.—Cannot ascertain.
29th.—Have not an Opportunity of forming any Judgment, having at this Time but few Prisoners of that Description.
30th.—Cannot say.

William Dowding, Governor.

Marlborough.

No. 44.—Answers of Mr. Alfred Alexander, Marlborough County Bridewell, Wilts.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—Four Day-rooms. Prisoners before Trial; Prisoners convicted of Misdemeanors. Sixty Prisoners.
4th.—Ten; no Debtors.
5th.—Always kept as separate as possible; but, owing to Numbers, sometimes there are from Ten to Twelve in One Room.
6th.—Can hold Intercourse with each other.
7th.—No Steps have been taken to prevent it.
8th.—Not punishable.
9th.—No Tread-wheel.
10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, & 14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th.—One.
16th.—One Year; lewd.
17th.—No.
18th.—By the Keeper twice, sometimes Three, Four, or Five Times every Day; Three Times a Week by the Chaplain, and oftener, if any sick or in solitude.
19th.—Those in solitary Confinement leave their Cells only long enough to wash themselves, &c. Morning and Evening.
20th.—No injurious Effects have been ever produced on the Minds or Health of any of the Prisoners by Solitude; on the contrary, they have invariably had good Health, and their Behaviour and Morals improved.
21st.—Yes, they always conduct themselves better after it.
22d.—One hundred and six Days; Assault; acquitted at the Sessions.
23d.—Two.
24th.—Prisoners before Trial are allowed Food of any Sort besides the Gaol Allowance, but no Liquor of any Sort except Tea or Coffee.
25th.—Yes, by an Order from a Magistrate when he chooses to grant it.
26th.—No particular Intervals; according to Circumstances.
27th.—All I know is, that Prisoners committed by the Magistrates of the Borough of Marlborough are sent to this Gaol before and after Trial, and to the County Gaol before Trial.
28th.—Yes; I have asked those who are now in my Custody if they would like to go, and the greatest Part of them would be very glad to go.

29th.—I think it would be acceptable to a great Number of the Prisoners, particularly to Agricultural Labourers. It will receive the Co-operation of the Magistrates.

30th.—I think it would be acceptable to a great Number of the Prisoners and their Parents. It would receive the Co-operation of the Magistrates.

ALFRED ALEXANDER.

4th April 1835.

No. 45.—ANSWERS of Mr. EDW. SHEPHERD, WAKEFIELD House of Correction, York. Wakefield.

1st.—The principal Alterations of this Prison during the last Year were in the Female Department, the Erection of a commodious Wash-house and a general Mess-room; in the Male Prison Three Work-rooms have been fitted up as Mess-rooms, Two Day-rooms have been subdivided into Six sleeping Cells each, a Room has been altered for the extensive Employment of Prisoners in burling Cloth, and a Variety of minor Alterations has been made.

2d.—On the 16th of April 1834 a System of Discipline entirely new, and partly founded on that of Wethersfield, was adopted in this Prison. Silence is enforced at all Times; at work, at Mess, during the Hours of Exercise, and at Night. This Discipline differs from Wethersfield, as here it is enforced by Prisoners during the Day, instead of by hired Assistants. The Superintendence of Two hired Assistants during the Day, and Two Watchmen during the Night, is found amply sufficient to carry it into effect. I enclose a Copy of the Rules, which were sanctioned by the Judges at the March Assizes previous.

3d.—Day-rooms are now generally used as Work-rooms.

4th.—The Number of sleeping Cells is 347. Debtors are not confined in this Prison.

5th & 6th.—Each Prisoner sleeps in a separate Cell, as far as it is practicable; but if the Number of Prisoners be greater than the Number of Cells, the Surplus sleep in Two long Rooms which hold Thirty-four each, in which Lights are burning during the Night, and into which the Watchmen of the Prison have good Inspection. As in these Dormitories the Bed of each Prisoner is separated by a Partition, and as the Inspection is so perfect, the Power of communicating is nearly as effectually prevented here as it is in a separate Cell.

7th & 8th.—The Prison Rules will answer this Question.

9th.—The Tread-wheel Employment is adopted here, but as other Labour is plentifully supplied to the Prison, it is not used to a great Extent. The Number of Steps is about Forty-eight in a Minute, and the Steps Seven Inches and a Half apart.

10th.—The Tread-wheel Power grinds Corn. Regulators are provided, but they do not exhibit the Amount of Labour.

11th.—The Tread-wheel is not divided into separate Compartments.

12th.—Yes.

13th.—The Prisoners rest on a Form in each Room; they can see each other.

14th.—The Male Prisoners mess in Three large Rooms fitted up purposely; the Females in One.

15th.—Forty-two.

16th.—The longest solitary Confinement at One Time was Six Weeks; the Prisoner was sentenced by a Court-martial for a Breach of the Articles of War.

17th.—None.

18th.—The Governor visits those in solitary Confinement daily; the Chaplain occasionally.

19th.—Exercise is allowed in an open Yard twice in a Week for an Hour each.

20th.—None.

21st.—I am not able to say.

22d.—Four Months. The Prisoner was convicted of Felony, and imprisoned Eighteen Calendar Months.

23d.—Twenty-five.

24th.—No Prisoner receiving the Prison Allowance can have any other Food. The Rules of the Prison will show you who have the Privilege of providing their own Food.

25th & 26th.—Convicted Prisoners receive or send Letters without any Restriction, but they are allowed to see their Friends only once a Month.

27th.—All local Jurisdictions in this Riding (except Ripon) send their Prisoners to this Prison.

EDW. SHEPHERD.

6th May 1835.

No. 46.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN G. GULLY, Keeper of EXETER City Gaol and House of Correction, Devon. Exeter.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Eight; Four to Male and Four to Female Prisoners, and classed as near the Act as the Number of Day-rooms will admit. The Number of Prisoners varies considerably; there are often Ten or Twelve in a Day-room.

4th.—Thirty-nine; Twenty-eight for Male and Female Prisoners, and Eleven for Debtors.

 5th.—Six

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Exeter.

5th.—Six in some Apartments.
6th.—Yes.
7th & 8th.—None.
9th.—Twenty-four; Eight Inch Step.
10th.—Beating Hemp, or Straw, if there is no Hemp to keep the Prisoners employed. None.
11th & 12th.—No.
13th.—Either stands or sits on the Steps; used to go on the Wheel. Yes.
14th.—In the Day-rooms.
15th.—Ten.
16th.—Three were sentenced to Six separate Weeks; One for Embezzlement, and Two for Felony.
17th.—None.
18th.—Two or Three Times in a Week.
19th.—For One Hour in the Morning in the Airing-ground.
20th.—None.
21st.—Yes; the Prisoners appear to dread it.
22d.—Three Months; for Felony, after a former Conviction; sentenced to Seven Years Transportation.
23d.—None for more than Three Months.
24th.—Prisoners under Conviction twice a Week; before Trial, Three Times a Week.
25th.—Yes; Three Times a Week.
26th.—Three Times a Week; Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
27th.—None.
28th.—I consider it would not be generally accepted.
29th & 30th.—Yes.

JOHN G. GULLY, Keeper.

11th April 1835.

Portsmouth.

No. 47.—ANSWERS of Mr. EDWARD HUNT, Keeper of PORTSMOUTH Borough Gaol and House of Correction, Hants.

1st.—No Alterations.
2d.—Not any.
3d.—Seven Yards and Nine Day-rooms. Male Debtors, and Misdemeanants, for Assaults, Penalties, and Breaches of the Peace, are confined in One Yard, but have separate Day-rooms; at present there are Four Debtors and Ten Misdemeanants. Convicted Male Felons, Utterers of base Coin, and Vagrants, in One Yard; at present there are Eighteen in this Yard. Non-convicted Felons, &c. in One Yard. In each of the last-mentioned Yards Utterers of base Coin, &c. are put, there not being the Number of Yards to make the Classification required by the 4th of Geo. 4.; at present in this Yard there are Ten. Soldiers under Sentences of Courts-martial, Deserters, and Misdemeanants sentenced to hard Labour, in One Yard; at present in this Yard there are Eleven. Total, Fifty-three Men. There are Three Yards, Three Day-rooms, a Wash-house, Cook-house, Infirmary, and Fourteen Cells in the Female Prison, which is entirely detached from the Prison occupied by the Males. Female non-convicted Felons in One Yard; convicted Felons, Vagrants, and Misdemeanants sentenced to hard Labour, in One Yard; Female Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour, in One Yard; at present there are Three convicted Female Felons, Four non-convicted, and Three Misdemeanants. Total, Ten Women.
4th.—Forty-nine.
5th.—One in each Cell; but if the Prisoners exceed Forty-nine, Three are placed together in a Cell.
6th.—It is impossible under present Circumstances to prevent it.
7th.—No effectual Steps can be taken.
8th.—It is contrary to the Rules for Prisoners to sing or make any Noise in their Day-rooms, or to call or speak to each other when they are locked up at Night; a Breach of this Rule is punished by locking up the Offender in a Cell for several Hours.
9th.—Height of each Step is Nine Inches. No Account of the Number of Steps is taken.
10th.—The Tread-mill is a non-productive one, except about twice a Week it throws up Water into a Cistern to supply the Female Prisoners, which does not take more than Half an Hour each Time.
11th.—It is not.
12th.—No.
13th.—There is a Seat in the Mill-house; he can see and converse with them.
14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th.—Twenty-three.
16th.—Twenty-one Days; stealing a Leg of Pork.
17th.—No.
18th.—By the Governor every Day. No Chaplain has ever been appointed to this Gaol.

19th.—Half

Portsmouth.

19th.—Half an Hour in the Morning in the Yard to which they belong.

20th.—None.

21st.—This Prison is not constructed in a Manner to carry the Sentence of solitary Confinement into effect.

22d.—Three Months and Three Days; stealing Two Watches; Six Months hard Labour, Fourteen Days of the Imprisonment solitary.

23d.—Five.

24th.—Prisoners committed for Trial, and Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour after Trial.

25th.—The Friends of Prisoners convicted of Felony, uttering base Coin, Vagrancy, and of Misdemeanants for hard Labour, must obtain a written Order from a Visiting Magistrate; Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour are allowed to see their Friends every Wednesday between Ten and Eleven o'Clock in the Morning; all untried Prisoners are allowed to see their Friends on every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between Ten and Eleven o'Clock in the Morning.

26th.—All Letters sent to and received by Prisoners convicted of Felony, uttering of base Coin, Vagrancy, and Misdemeanants sentenced to hard Labour, pass through the Hands of the Governor. No stated Time for sending or receiving Letters.

27th.—No Arrangement has been or is likely to be made with the County to receive Prisoners from this Gaol.

28th.—I think not generally.

29th.—Same Answer as to the foregoing Question.

30th.—I think in but few Instances. I am sure the Magistrates here would cordially co-operate to carry the Measures proposed in 29 and 30 into execution.

EDWARD HUNT, Keeper.

Leicester.

No. 48.—ANSWERS of W. OWSTON, Gaoler of LEICESTER Borough Gaol, and of the GOVERNOR of the House of Correction.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Four Day-rooms; viz. One for Debtors, One for untried Felons, One for Women, and One for Misdemeanor Prisoners.

4th.—Thirty-six sleeping Rooms and Cells.

5th.—One or Three Males; generally Two Females.

6th.—The Prisoners hold Intercourse with each other when in their Day-rooms, at their Meals, and when taking Exercise, but not when in their Night Apartments, except when Three Males or Two Females are in One Cell or sleeping Room.

7th.—None.

8th.—No Punishment for one Prisoner speaking to another, except calling or shouting from their Cells or sleeping Rooms; in that Case they are liable to be close confined on Bread and Water for any Term not exceeding Three Days.

9th.—Forty-two Steps a Minute is about the average Number; the Height of each Step is Eight Inches and a Half.

10th.—It is not applied to any Purpose except as Punishment; it is provided with Machinery for regulating and equalizing, but not exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—No, it is not; the Wheel is divided into Two Compartments, one for Felons, the other for Misdemeanors, and each capable of being worked by Eight Men.

12th.—No. A Wardsman is stationed to overlook the Prisoners at work, whose Duty is to prevent any Intercourse by Conversation, and to keep the Prisoners regular to their Work.

13th.—There are Seats provided at each End of the Wheels, whereon the Prisoner may rest; he can converse with the other Prisoners at work, which he is punished for when he so offends.

14th.—In the separate Day-rooms.

15th.—Eight.

16th.—One Year; convicted of stealing from the Person.

17th.—They are provided with Bibles and other proper Books.

18th.—By the Gaoler and his Assistants frequently in the Day; by the Chaplain twice in every Week.

19th.—The Prisoners in the Gaol may take Exercise in their separate Yards Six Hours a Day from Michaelmas to Lady Day, and Ten Hours a Day from Lady Day to Michaelmas. The Governor of the House of Correction states to me that the Prisoners in his Custody are in the Summer Months unlocked at Seven o'Clock, employed in cleaning their Cells, Day-rooms, Yards, and supplying the Reservoirs with Water; at Half after Eight o'Clock they breakfast, go on the Wheel at Half after Nine, off at Half after Twelve for Dinner, on the Wheel at Two, coming off at Six to Supper, and locked up at Eight o'Clock; in Winter unlock at Eight, on the Wheel at Ten, off to Dinner at Twelve, on again at Half after One, off at Five, the intermediate Hours being employed in filling the Reservoirs with Water, cleaning, and Exercise.

20th.—None.

21st.—It has, for Offences committed within the Prison.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Leicester.

22d.—Eighty-four Days; charged with feloniously stealing Pork; sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard Labour in the House of Correction for the Term of Six Calendar Months.

23d.—None.

24th.—Untried Prisoners are allowed to receive from their Friends common Food beyond the Prison Ration; no Wine or Liquor of any Sort, except ordered by the Surgeon of the Prison. Those sentenced to hard Labour in the House of Correction the Governor informs me are not allowed to receive any Food, &c. from their Friends, but to subsist on the Prison Ration.

25th.—Prisoners in Gaol under Sentence of Transportation (all other convicted are sent to the House of Correction) are allowed to see their Friends Four Times a Week; Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour in the House of Correction, the Governor informs me, are allowed to see their Friends once a Week.

26th.—Prisoners in Gaol under Sentence of Transportation are allowed to write and receive Letters, which are inspected, on any Day except Sundays, and on those Days in Cases of Emergency. In the House of Correction, the Governor informs me, the Prisoners are allowed to write and receive Letters, which are inspected at no stated Intervals.

27th.—None.

28th.—I cannot answer this Question; but if I may presume to give an Opinion after an Experience of near Thirty-five Years as Gaoler of this Prison, and during that Time had several Hundred Adults committed to my Care, I think it would be attended with great Good to the friendless and forsaken much-to-be-pitied Youths.

29th.—I cannot say, but think such an Offer would not be generally accepted. I have no Doubt that whatever Institution may be formed, patronized by His Majesty's Government, would receive the Co-operation of the Magistrates of this Borough.

30th.—I think not acceptable generally to them and their Parents or Friends; it would be attended, I have no Doubt, with great Good to juvenile Offenders, and receive the Co-operation of the Magistrates.

W. Owston, Gaoler.

6th April 1835.

Coventry.

No. 49.—Answers of Samuel Carter, Governor of Coventry City and County Gaol, Warwick.

1st.—No Alteration.
2d.—None.
3d.—Ten; Debtors, Felons, Misdemeanors, and Vagrants. Numbers vary.
4th.—Eighty-six.
5th.—One or Three.
6th.—They are together both at work and also when at their Meals.
7th.—None.
8th.—It is not; Care is taken to prevent Noise.
9th.—No. 27. Twenty-two Steps in a Minute; Steps Seven Inches apart.
10th.—To supply the Prison with Water. No Machinery to regulate the Amount of Labour.
11th & 12th.—It is not.
13th.—Seats are provided.
14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th, 16th, & 17th.—None.
18th.—Governor daily; by the Chaplain frequently.
19th.—They leave the Cells in the Morning, and do not return until Night; this applies the Prisoners generally.
20th.—None.
21st.—There has not been a Commitment.
22d.—For Capital Offences they are committed for the next Assizes; that may be a Period of Three or Four Months.
23d.—It is of frequent Occurrence.
24th.—Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation, and in case of Sickness.
25th.—Daily Visits.
26th.—They are allowed, subject to the Governor's Inspection.
27th.—This is a County Gaol.
28th.—I am not aware of any Cases of that Sort.
29th.—This Question I am not competent to answer fully.
30th.—This also not competent.

Samuel Carter, Governor.

4th April 1835.

No. 50.—

No. 50.—Answers of Francis Coutes, Governor of Hull Town Gaol and House of Correction, Yorkshire.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Hull.

1st.—No Alteration has taken place in the Construction of this Gaol and House of Correction in the Year 1834; but it is now undergoing extensive Alterations in order to carry into effect a System of total Silence amongst the Prisoners.

2d.—No Change has yet taken place in the Discipline of the Prison, except that all the convicted Prisoners take their Meals together in One common Dining-room, when they are under the Care of a Turnkey, assisted by a Wardsman selected from amongst the Prisoners to keep Order amongst them.

3d.—Nearly the whole of the Day-rooms are now being converted into Night Cells; as it is intended, when the Alterations are complete, that there shall be but One common Dining-room where all the Prisoners will take their Meals together, and that each Prisoner shall sleep in a separate Cell, and the like Arrangement in the Female Department.

4th.—At present the Number of sleeping Cells are Ninety-three (Twenty-two of which are in the Debtors Prison), but that Number will be still increased by the Conversion of the Remainder of the Day-rooms into sleeping Cells.

5th.—At present One or Three; when the Alterations are complete, only One.

6th.—The System of total Silence is not yet adopted, but the Prisoners are restricted from holding any Intercourse with each other when at work.

7th.—Wardsmen are appointed, who report any Breach of this Rule when at work.

8th.—Not unless he is at labour, and then he is punished by solitary Confinement in a dark Cell upon Bread and Water, not longer than Three Days.

9th.—Forty-eight Steps in One Minute; each Step is Eight Inches in Height.

10th.—To the Manufacture of Whiting; and there is also a Meter or Regulator by which is ascertained the Quantity of Work performed by the Wheel.

11th.—The Wheel is divided into Four Compartments, in each of which Six Prisoners can work at One Time; but they are prevented from communicating with each other by the Presence of a Turnkey and Wardsman.

12th.—No.

13th.—The Prisoners on the Wheel rest One Quarter out of every Three Quarters of an Hour. Benches are placed in each Compartment, so that when off the Wheel they can either sit or walk a Distance of about Nine Feet, and cannot see the Prisoners in the other Compartments.

14th.—At present nearly the whole of the Prisoners take their Meals together in the common Dining-room, but when the Alterations are complete all will meal together.

15th.—Seven.

16th.—Twelve Calendar Months hard Labour and solitary Confinement; the first Fortnight to hard Labour, and the next Week in solitary Confinement, and so on alternately during the Term. Manslaughter.

17th.—No; but they are provided with Religious Books if they can read.

18th.—The Governor's Visits are constant, and the Chaplain's occasionally.

19th.—Once a Day in the Morning, to wash themselves, in the Yard; the Cells are spacious; they can walk about therein.

20th.—Not to my Knowledge.

21st.—In some Cases I think it has.

22d.—The Sessions are held quarterly, and it often happens that Prisoners remain near Three Months before Trial, but cannot remain longer; but when such Prisoners are found guilty, the Court takes into consideration the Time they may have been in Prison before Trial when it passes Sentence.

23d.—See preceding Answer.

24th.—Prisoners before Trial who wish to maintain themselves are allowed to do so, but no Prisoner after Conviction is allowed to receive any Food but the Prison Diet.

25th.—Prisoners convicted of Felony, once a Month; and Prisoners under summary Convictions of Justices, who would be entitled to their Discharge on Payment of Penalties, daily (Sundays excepted).

26th.—No Restrictions are placed upon written Communications between Prisoners and their Friends, except that all such are subject to the Inspection of the Governor.

27th.—All Prisoners for Offences committed within the Town and County of the Town of Kingston-upon-Hull are committed here; there is no other Gaol or House of Correction within the said Town and County; Prisoners for Capital Offences are removed to York Castle by Habeas for Trial.

28th.—In some Cases I think it would.

29th.—I cannot say that such a Measure would be generally acceptable, because such an Opportunity has never yet offered; but I think it would be accepted in many Cases. I have no Doubt such an Institution would receive the Co-operation of the Magistrates.

30th.—I cannot possibly form an Idea how far such a Plan for juvenile Offenders would prove acceptable, because the Majority of juvenile Offenders committed to this Prison have Friends or Connexions in the Town, who, I think, in most Cases, would not willingly part with them; but I believe the Magistrates would willingly co-operate in such a Measure.

Francis Coutes, Governor.

7th April 1835.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Sandwich.

No. 51.—Answers of Mr. John Mourilyan, Town Clerk, relative to Sandwich Town Gaol and House of Correction, Kent.

1st & 2d.—Not any.

3d.—Eight Day-rooms capable of containing Six Prisoners each; the Prisoners are classed in them agreeably to the Act 5 Geo. 4. c. 85. s. 10.

4th.—Eighteen.

5th.—One or Three, according to the crowded State of the Prison; never Two, and very rarely Three.

6th.—The Prisoners hold Intercourse with each other at their Meals, taking Exercise, and in their Day-rooms, but are not allowed to do so when at work, or in their Night Apartments.

7th.—Solitary Confinement for One or Three Days in a dark Cell, with Bread and Water, as a Punishment for infringing upon this Rule.

8th.—Prisoners speaking to each other at work are punished by solitary Confinement in the dark Cell, with Bread and Water.

9th.—Forty-eight Steps are taken in a Minute; the Height of each Step is Seven and a Half Inches.

10th.—The Tread-wheel in the Sandwich Gaol cannot be applied to any Purpose in consequence of the small Number of Prisoners generally employed on it; it is supplied with a Regulator, but does not exhibit the Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—The Tread-wheel is not fitted up with separate Compartments.

12th.—No.

13th.—The Prisoners are employed in the Proportion of Three Fourths on the Wheel, consequently they work Three Quarters of an Hour, and rest One Quarter; they sit on a Footstool in the Wheel-shed in front of the other Prisoners, and can of course see them.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—None.

22d.—Five Months; Burglary; Death recorded; commuted to Fourteen Years Transportation. There are Three Sessions held in every Year for Sandwich, and in this Case the Prisoner was committed for Trial on the 4th of April, the Day after the Sessions, and tried on the 28th of August following.

23d.—Ten.

24th.—Debtors; Prisoners for Trial, and Prisoners not committed to hard Labour, if they do not receive any Prison Allowance, are allowed to subsist themselves. No Liquor is allowed to be brought into the Gaol.

25th.—Convicted Felons once a Month, other Prisoners once a Week, with the written Permission of One of the Visiting Magistrates.

26th.—Convicted Prisoners are allowed to write to and receive Letters from their Friends as often as they please; such Letters are always seen by the Gaoler.

27th.—No; we have hitherto had ample Means of providing for the safe Custody and Punishment of all Prisoners that have been committed within the Liberty.

28th & 29th.—The Gaoler is convinced that such Offer would not be acceptable to Prisoners; he has had considerable Experience, having, previous to his Appointment at the Sandwich Gaol, been employed in the County Gaol at Saint Augustine's, and having been very frequently at the County Gaol at Maidstone; the Reason he gives for this Opinion is, that Prisoners generally state to him that they can live much better by begging than by Work.

30th.—No Doubt such an Institution would receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy, but would not be acceptable to the Offenders.

John Mourilyan, Town Clerk.

11th April 1835.

Boston.

52.—Answer of John Gloss, Gaoler of Boston Borough Gaol and House of Correction, Lincoln.

1st and 2d.—None.

3d.—Eight Day-rooms; Prisoners of all Classes are admitted in the Day-rooms.

4th.—Sixteen sleeping Rooms; Two Cells.

5th.—Felons, One; Misdemeanors, Two; Number of Debtors not restricted.

6th.—Yes; the Rooms being so near each other, they can hold Intercourse almost at any Time.

7th.—None.

8th.—It is frequently; the Punishment for which is solitary Confinement.

9th.—Sixty Steps in a Minute; Seven and a Half Inches.

10th.—The Tread-wheel is applied to the Purpose of grinding Corn. The Machinery is not provided with any Means of regulating and exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—No, it is quite open.

12th.—No.

13th.—When a Prisoner comes off the Wheel he in general rests, either by sitting down or standing still. He can see other Prisoners, the Yard being quite open.

14th.—In

Boston.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.
15th.—Three.
16th.—Twelve Months, One Month of which was solitary; Felony.
17th.—No.
18th.—Those in Solitude are visited by the Governor Three or Four Times a Day; they are never visited by the Chaplain, nor do they attend Divine Service on a Sunday.
19th.—Prisoners committed to solitary Confinement are not allowed to take any Exercise.
20th.—No.
21st.—Yes, more than any other Description of Punishment.
22d.—Two Prisoners Nine Weeks before Trial; Felony; guilty. One sentenced to be transported for Fourteen Years; the other imprisoned for Six Months.
23d.—None.
24th.—Yes, when allowed by the Magistrates.
25th.—Yes, by Permission of the Magistrates; generally once a Week.
26th.—Yes, but not without being first examined by the Gaoler; no Restriction as to Time.
27th.—Prisoners are never sent to the County Gaol after Trial; Convicts are removed direct to the Hulks or Vessel which is to convey them to their Destination; when Prisoners stand charged of Capital Offences, they are then, of course, sent to the County Gaol for Trial at the Assizes.
28th.—It is probable some might, but I think the generality of them would not.
29th.—I do not think such a Measure would be acceptable generally to the Prisoners, though liberated in a State of Destitution. The Magistrates could have no Objection to the Formation of such an Institution.
30th.—I think such an Institution would neither be acceptable to them nor their Friends.

JOHN GLOSS, Gaoler.

27th April 1835.

No. 53.—ANSWERS of Mr. THOMAS KING, Governor of YARMOUTH Town Gaol, Norfolk.

Yarmouth.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—Five Day-rooms; One for Male Debtors, One for Female Debtors, One for Male Prisoners before Trial, One for Male Convicts, and One for Females.
4th.—Twenty sleeping Rooms and Cells.
5th.—Only One in each sleeping Cell, unless there is a greater Number of Prisoners, and then there are Three placed in some.
6th, 7th, & 8th.—Prisoners of the same Class are allowed to speak to each other in the Daytime; but if they are heard talking after being locked up for the Night, they are prevented and punished by being confined in the solitary Cells.
9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—No Tread-wheel.
14th.—Each Class in their Day-rooms.
15th.—One.
16th.—He was convicted of Larceny, and sentenced to be imprisoned in the Gaol Six Calendar Months, first and last Week in solitary Confinement.
17th.—Only reading, and had a Bible and Testament and a Book of Common Prayer given him into the Cell.
18th.—The Governor makes it a Rule to go through the Prison, and see all the Prisoners twice a Day, and frequently oftener; the Chaplain every Sabbath Day.
19th.—The Prisoners leave their sleeping Cells at Eight o'Clock in the Morning, and are taken to the Day-rooms, each of which opens into an Airing-yard, wherein they have the Liberty of walking during the Day.
20th.—No, we never found that it had.
21st.—Yes, we have experienced that in many Instances.
22d.—Three Prisoners in the last Year were confined Five Months before Trial; they were all convicted of Larceny. One sentenced to be imprisoned in Bridewell Twelve Calendar Months, the first and last Week in solitary Confinement; one sentenced to be imprisoned in the Bridewell Two Years, and the other One Month in Bridewell.
23d.—Nine.
24th.—Yes, once in the Week, either on Mondays or Fridays.
25th.—Only by a written Order granted by the Mayor once in the Week.
26th.—Convicted Prisoners allowed to write and receive Letters from their Friends, provided such Letters are inspected by the Governor.
27th.—No.
28th, 29th, & 30th.—I am unable to offer any Opinion on the Points contained in these Queries.

THOS. KING, Governor.

No. 9. Questions by the Prison Discipline Society, and Answers thereto.

Yarmouth.

No. 54.—Answers of Mr. Thomas King, Governor of Yarmouth Bridewell, Norfolk.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—Two Day-rooms; One for Male Prisoners, One for Females.
4th.—Fourteen sleeping Cells.
5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, & 14th.—The same as the Gaol.
15th.—Eight.
16th.—All convicted of Larceny, and sentenced to different Periods of Imprisonment; Five to be in solitary Confinement the first and last Week, and Three the last Week.
17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—The same as the Gaol.
22d & 23d.—The Prisoners for Trial are not confined in this Prison.
24th, 25th, & 26th.—The same as the Gaol.
27th.—No.

Thomas King, Governor.

7th April 1835.

No. 9 a.

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Abingdon.

Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement, accompanying the Answers of the Governorsand Gaolers.

No. 1.—Observations on the Questions by Mr. S. Walker, Abingdon.

On Question 1. The greatest Alteration had taken place in 1833, some Hints of which are given in another Sheet.

2. This was also greatest in the Year 1833.

3. The Number of Female Prisoners is usually small.

4. These might be increased by the Division of the larger Cells.

5. This shows the Necessity of having them divided, as the greatest Good would be attained by keeping the Prisoners separate, especially at Night when they are under no Control; it is then impossible to prevent their conversing, and they are likewise more numerous. Every Prison should be provided with a sufficient Number of separate Cells for the greatest Number of Prisoners that have been in Custody in any Year. We have sometimes not more than Half enough.

6. This cannot possibly be prevented by Night or by Day when there are Three or Four in a Cell, as is the Case here, when they are shut up for the Night, or for the Purpose of taking their Meals.

7. There is a Difficulty in preventing this with Prisoners before Trial, as they spend their Day together in the Ward, and in the Winter amount to from Three to Five and Fifteen, and even Twenty sometimes.

8. The Difference of Punishment to Men at the Tread-wheel is found necessary, as they consider the Punishment much lighter to be taken off the Wheel.

10. The Machinery should undoubtedly be provided with an Index as the Wheels are frequently observed to be going too fast, and sometimes not fast enough.

11. The only Remedy is the constant Attendance of a Turnkey to prevent Communication, but they can see each other and make Signs.

14. The Prisoners for Trial take their Meals in their Ward; but the Keeper, is directed in case of their talking or behaving disorderly, to shut them up in their Cells, and for them to take their Meals there. This Order was made for the Moral Advantage of the Prisoners, as in the Case of Prisoners who have been in Custody before they invariably become much worse, and contaminate many others.

15. This Answer alludes to Prisoners who have been tried, not to those punished for Offences in the Prison.

16. This alludes to Sauce.

17. They never have, under any Consideration.

18. It is considered most beneficial to Prisoners in solitary Confinement to be visited by as few Persons as possible.

19. The Prisoners at the Tread-wheel consider they get plenty of Exercise at the Wheel, and are not very anxious to walk in the Yard.

20. I consider solitary Confinement more generally dreaded than any other Punishment, and think the Prisons need not be so full, were the Prisoners generally confined for a shorter Period, and this Mode of Punishment more resorted to, provided it be not excessive.

22. There are some Instances of Prisoners being confined from July to March, having probably been sent in a few Days after the former Assizes.

23. Prisoners confined for Three Months or more before Trial are mostly those committed for the Assizes, the Sessions being only Three Months apart.

437

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Abingdon.

28. I know an Instance of a young Man, who was twice in Custody on a Charge of Arson, who emigrated to New South Wales, the Parish to which he belonged having paid his Passage.

29. I think would refer chiefly to Persons without a Home, who make a Practice of travelling the Country, committing Depredations, and visiting most of the Prisons.

30. I think an Institution to be formed for this Purpose would be desirable, when known, and the Friends of young Prisoners would often be glad of an Opportunity of their being removed from their former bad Companions, and would often save the Expense of Two or Three Convictions. This is the Case in this Town, where so much Interest is always made by one or another for a Mitigation of Sentence. This Remark alludes to Prisoners under Head 27.

Alterations in the Abingdon House of Correction, 1833.

During the Winter of 1832-3 many of the Prisoners who were in Custody had been recommitted from Three to Six or Seven Times, and it was found the oftener they returned the worse they behaved, and tended to demoralize the other Prisoners, so much so that many went out of Prison worse than they came in, and the Keeper was obliged to select such from the rest, and confine them in a Ward by themselves; added to this, their general bad Conduct throughout the Sunday obliged the Keeper to press upon the Visiting Justices the Necessity of a Reform amongst this Class of Prisoners, who were only orderly behaved when under the Eyes of some of the Officers, their Wards not being under Inspection. In consequence of the above, a Committee of Magistrates were appointed to revise the then existing Rules, which were found inadequate.

May 29.—An Order was made for the Observance of Silence throughout the Prison. This was only partly observed, the Prisoners still mustering in their Wards throughout the Sunday.

June 12.—The Visiting Justices ordered the Prisoners should in future be confined in their Cells on the Sunday, except Three Hours per Day for Exercise and Meals.

July 8.—Ordered the Prisoners should take their Meals in their Cells, and be locked up when they leave Work at Night.

The unconvicted Prisoners to remain in their Cells; Two Hours at Breakfast and Dinner Time respectively, and locked up at Six o'Clock.

July 27.—Ordered the Day-rooms Nos. 2 and 3, for convicted Prisoners, to be converted into Eight sleeping Cells.

That no Prisoners convicted and sentenced to One Month or a shorter Period be visited by their Friends, and those for a longer Term only once a Month.

October 7.—One of the Visiting Justices, on going through the Prison before the Prisoners Dinner Hour, remarked many of them had eat nearly all their Allowance of Bread for Breakfast, and some few quite. Ordered for the future the Bread should be made into Three Loaves, and served out at Three different Times.

November 4.—Ordered by One of the Visiting Justices, that the Prisoners for Trial do remain down Stairs during the Day, so long as they shall conduct themselves to the entire Satisfaction of the Keeper; if not, to be treated as before.

January 21, 1834.—Ordered, that for the future no Prisoners be discharged on Sundays.

The Prisoners are now discharged on Saturdays.

February 20.—Ordered, that no Persons be admitted to visit Prisoners for the future on Sundays.

April 5.—No Tenders sent in for Supply of Bread, in consequence of the Trouble of making into small Loaves; ordered to return to the old System.

July.—Ordered the old Mill to be taken down, and a new one erected in another Part of the Prison, and the present Mill to be converted into a Tread-mill.

October 20.—Tread-wheel commenced working, since which Time the Number of Prisoners has very much decreased, and up to the present Time only Two Recommittals to the Tread-wheel has taken place; Six Months.

The greatest Good has resulted from the Introduction of Silence into the Prison, together with the Separation of Prisoners as much as possible by Day and Night.

The particular Attention of Government should be called to Prisoners before Trial, so that their Imprisonment should not in any Way assimilate the convicted Prisoners more than is necessary for the good Government of the Prison; and they may as early as possible be brought to Trial, either to be discharged, or undergo such Punishment as the Nature of their Offence may require.

The Writer could mention several Instances which have come to his Knowledge of young Offenders having gone out of Prison much worse than when first committed, and this alone can be attributed to their having of Necessity become Companions of the worst Descriptions of Thieves. One young Lad was lately executed for a Highway Robbery where much Violence had been used; he had been out of Prison little more than a Month, where he had been before Three or Four Times. The Evening before he suffered he told me he attributed his wretched End to the ill Advice of Fellow Prisoners.

Samuel Walker, Keeper.

April 1835.

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Exeter.

No. 2.—Observations by Mr. William Cole, Governor of Exeter County Prisons, Devon.

With respect to the Three last Questions, they embrace a Subject quite new to me, and on which I do not feel competent to judge of its Practicability; but from my Experience of the Prisoners who have passed through my Hands for Thirteen Years past, I do not feel very sanguine about it; at the same Time I think it an excellent Plan, if the Prisoners could be brought to embrace it. I will give it my best Attention, and submit it to the Visiting Magistrates at their next General Meeting.

Wm. Cole, Governor.

28th April 1835.

Horsley.

No. 3.—Observations by Mr. W. Windez, Governor of Horsley County House of Correction, Gloucester.

If I may be allowed to make a few Observations in regard to the Diet of the different Prisons throughout England, I should say the Diversity is extremely great and inconsistent. Some are allowed Food and Rations that are really Articles of Luxury, compared to their Situation. All Prisons should, if possible, be upon the same Footing. I flatter myself the Diet of this Prison, which has been highly approved, would in general, if adopted, be quite sufficient for the Purpose. One Pound and a Half of good Household Bread per Day, with One Quart of Water Gruel, and One Pound and a Half of Potatoes, with Salt in proportion, are considered a bountiful and wholesome Supply, and no Set of Men can appear in better Health.

In regard to all Houses of Correction, the Punishment and Restriction should be the same, and to consist of only One Class, which I mean for all convicted Prisoners; Persons for further Examination, unconvicted, and Debtors, of course excepted.

This One Class should subject all to hard Labour, or, as Occasion may be, to solitary.

I consider, from Fourteen Years Experience as Governor of this Gaol, that One Month's solitary Confinement is equal to Two of the Run of the Prison. I can with Certainty state this, because I have had Application from some of the Prisoners who were lonely in a Cell begging to be allowed to go on the Tread-wheel.

I contend that if those Persons who are found guilty of Assault, and cannot or will not pay the Fines imposed, and others for Want of Sureties, should be subject to hard Labour. At present they are called the Third Class, and have full Liberty to walk about the Airing-yard all Day idle, and can receive extra Food from their Friends, and they get into such Habits of Indolence and Idleness as to render themselves at Times disorderly.

It is natural to suppose their Character very bad when their Friends will not assist to get them released, therefore they ought to be sent to hard Labour.

W. Windez, Governor.

April 1835.

Winchester.

No. 4.—Remarks by Mr. W. Barber, Governor of Winchester County Bridewell, Hants.

In reference to Query 20, I beg to inform you, that some Years back I was in the habit of having very many Military Men committed to me for solitary Confinement for Three, Four, and Six Months. In no Instance was Mind or Body impaired by it, though I have Scores of Times heard them confidently declare that rather than undergo Three Weeks solitary Confinement they would take 500 Lashes.

W. Barber, Governor.

16th April 1835.

Lancaster Castle

No. 5.—Observations by Mr. James Hansbrow, Keeper of Lancaster Castle, Lancashire.

In reference to your Application for Suggestions as to the Improvement of Prison Discipline, I can only say, that in my humble Opinion the best Means of effecting that Object would be, short Terms of Imprisonment, attended with solitary Confinement, and entire Separation of Prisoners, as low Diet as can be given consistently with a due Regard to the Prisoner's Health, and Religious Instruction.

James Hansbrow, Keeper.

20th April 1835.

Portsmouth.

No. 6.—Remarks by Mr. G. Hunt, Gaoler, Portsmouth Gaol, Hants.

It is impossible, from the present Construction of this and most other Gaols, to prevent the Intercourse of Prisoners with each other; if it could be adopted, I have no Doubt it would be productive of the most beneficial Effects. I speak from Experience, for before the passing of the 4th Geo. 4. the Female Prisoners occupied Part of the same Building with the Males, and when locked up in the Evening would call to each other, notwithstanding every Means was taken to prevent it; and the Language was often most obscene. The Female Prison

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Portsmouth.

is now quite detached, and they are under the Superintendence of the Matron, and generally conduct themselves with great Propriety. I would observe on No. 21,—having been nearly Twenty Years a Gaoler, and having had during that Period several Thousands of Prisoners under my Superintendence, many of whom were of the worst Description,—I can affirm, that where solitary Confinement can be carried into complete Effect that it is the most likely Discipline to reform Prisoners. I have rarely (inadequate as my Means of enforcing solitary Confinement are) had a Prisoner locked up who did not before Three Days were expired beg of me to release him. My Opinion is, that solitary Cells should have Light enough admitted to permit a Prisoner who can read to read his Bible; that he should have only Bread and Water, and in Summer no Bed or Bedding; in Winter Two Blankets, which should be taken out every Morning; no Conversation to be maintained on any Pretence, and no more Air and Exercise allowed than was necessary to preserve his Health. A short Imprisonment of this Kind would do more to reform Offenders than a long Term of Imprisonment in the Day-rooms and Yards of a Prison, particularly in the Case of juvenile Offenders. I would suggest, that the Dietary, Clothing, and Bedding should be of the same Quality and Quantity throughout all the Gaols in the Kingdom, and also the Time of locking up in their Cells and letting out in the Morning, and the Time of their Friends visiting them, and of their writing and receiving Letters; a Difference, of course, being made in the different Classes of Offenders. I am of this Opinion, as I have frequently overheard Prisoners praising the Dietary and Indulgences of one Prison, and expressing their Dislike at others. It appears to me that Prisons are more dreaded by those who have never been Inmates of them than by those who have; this ought not to be the Case, and tends to show that there is yet much required to be done towards the Improvement of Prison Discipline. With respect to Questions 28 & 29, I do not think that the Offers would be generally acceptable to the Class of Prisoners confined in this Gaol; I am, however, quite sure the Measures proposed would receive the cordial Co-operation of the Magistrates here.

G. Hunt, Gaoler.

1st April 1835.

Huntingdon.

No. 7.—Observations by Mr. George Smith, Gaoler, Huntingdon County Gaol.

In regard to the Questions you proposed (Thirty in Number), I have to observe, they evidently involve in them much that is important in regard to Prison Discipline; and should any of my Answers not appear sufficiently explicit, I shall be happy to supply you with what may be further required, so far as I am able.

In respect to any Suggestions you mention, I observe, that short Periods of Imprisonment are evidently productive of more favourable Results than longer; I would say that Six Calendar Months in general should be the utmost; during which Time, if Seclusion, Restraint, and hard Labour, attended by strict Attention to the Moral and Religious Culture of the Mind, were enforced, many Evils now produced by bad and vicious Intercourse would doubtless be obviated. I am fully convinced such a Practice would be preferable to the present Mode of long Imprisonment, during which the Mind for the greater Portion of the Time becomes inured to its Situation; and added to this, the constant Interchange of Inmates in the Prison renders any Attempt to produce a favourable Impression on the Mind ineffectual; and I will venture to add, that in very many Instances such Prisoners return to Society worse instead of better. I am no Advocate for a lax System of Discipline when I mention short Imprisonment; on the contrary, let it be short, but as severe and adapted in every Point as can be carried into effect with Safety to the bodily and mental Powers of each Individual; and where this Method fails, and a Second Conviction takes place, let Certainty of Transportation follow, and without Mitigation; this would surely prohibit many Offences from being committed with Impunity, as is frequently the Case now. I have observed many who have been confined for short Periods under our present System, who at the Time of leaving the Gaol declared they would never return (and but few have); but seldom do I hear a similar Declaration from such as have been confined for a Year or more. I have several now in Custody for One and Two Years, and am fully convinced that they are capable of contaminating, when an Opportunity offers, every other Prisoner who shall be confined during that Time with the same Class, besides counteracting any good Impressions which may be produced by the Discipline, or the Admonitions and Instructions of the Chaplain; whereas, if the same Persons were sentenced to shorter Periods, and a great Proportion thereof in Solitude, much Evil would be avoided. Hence I infer that long Imprisonment is not adapted to produce Reformation of Character, but invariably promote Moral Contagion, and greatly tend to augment the present crowded State of many Gaols.

I further observe, that numerous Cases of Petty Larcenies might, I conceive, be better disposed of than they are now, and I think, without much Injury to the Principle of Trial by Jury, by extending the Power of Magistates in Petty Sessions, which are generally held weekly, to hear and determine in a summary Way all such Cases to a certain Extent, especially as it regards juvenile Offenders. This is a Point I am anxious to urge, as being of great Importance to Society, not only as it respects Economy—and it is no uncommon Occurrence to see the Costs of a Prosecution for a trivial Offence amounting to 10*l.* or 20*l.*,—but the accused is sometimes committed to Prison for several Weeks before he can be tried,

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Huntingdon.

and often, for Want of Evidence, the Bill of Indictment is returned Ignoramus, or he is acquitted; thus the Injury inflicted on the Prisoner is in such Cases often incalculable. I forbear describing what I have witnessed as the Result. Society cannot make Reparation to the accused; nor does it appear to be in a Position to meet an Excess of Expenditure. The Ability and Integrity by which the Duties of the Magistracy in this Country are now fulfilled cannot be sufficiently appreciated by an enlightened Public, therefore I assume the Point I urge could not be better vested than in them.

And I further observe, that the present Practice of committing Persons to Prison who are convicted of common Assaults and for Want of Sureties to keep the Peace, &c., without being kept at hard Labour, is objectionable. I am aware the Justices have no Power to do so; but why not remedy a great and increasing Evil? I have now several of this Class, One of whom is sentenced to Eighteen Calendar Months Imprisonment for an Assault, and he is qualified to corrupt and debase every Person in his Ward; indeed he has no other Employment; being averse to good Reading, and not supplied with such Trash as he would prefer, he remains an evil Man and a Corrupter, growing worse and worse. Surely the Ends of Justice would be answered by assigning such a Class to more severe Punishment, and for less protracted Periods.

GEORGE SMITH, Gaoler.

11th April 1835.

Petworth.

No. 8.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN MANCE, Keeper of PETWORTH County House of Correction, Sussex.

Before any general Benefit will be derived to the Country from Prison Discipline, strict Silence and separate Confinement must be substituted for the injudicious and corrupting Classifications of the Gaol Acts.

JOHN MANCE, Keeper.

6th April 1835.

Marlborough.

No. 9.—OBSERVATIONS of Mr. ALFRED ALEXANDER, Keeper of MARLBOROUGH County Bridewell, Wilts.

Ever since I have been the Keeper of this Bridewell it has been my chief Study to ascertain which was the best and most effectual Mode of Punishment for Offenders. One of my Modes of ascertaining what Effect Punishment by Imprisonment has had upon them has been (when I have several in One Room of a Night) to place myself in such a Situation as to enable me to hear all their Conversation, and by this Means I have learnt what is the Punishment they most of all dread; the Tread-wheel nor Transportation is Half so much dreaded as solitary Confinement; indeed Flagellation nor any other Kind of Punishment is feared by them equally as Solitude. My Opinion is, that no Punishment will be so effectual in deterring them from the Commission of Offences, and give them a Dread of a Prison, as that of placing all of them in separate solitary Cells. I should also recommend that their Diet be always of one Sort, and that no Person but the proper Officers and Magistrates be allowed to see them after Conviction (except in Cases of Sickness); and in order that Solitude might be more fully felt, no Kind of Labour should be given them. I believe I can also affirm that large Places of Confinement, however well regulated they may be, have a very bad Effect on the Minds of the Prisoners, because they are led to suppose, by knowing how great a Number there is in the same Establishment, that a great Number of Persons are as bad as themselves, and consequently they see no Reason why they should reform their Lives when so many others are daily committing the same Offences which they themselves are guilty of. I think by having smaller Houses of Correction, the contrary Effects would be produced. I know this by Experience, having, when privately listening to them, heard the Prisoners declare they would sooner be where there was a good Lot than be where there was few, even if the Restrictions were greater. I am of opinion, and I believe I can prove it, that small Prisons are less Expense to the County in proportion than large ones; that is, if Ten small Prisons were built in different Parts of the County, instead of One equal in Size to the Ten, that they would be attended with less Expense than the One large one; besides which, it would be a greater Convenience for Magistrates, Prosecutors, and Witnesses, in Cases where Prisoners require to be further examined, &c.

ALFRED ALEXANDER.

4th April 1835.

Salop.

No. 10.—OBSERVATIONS by W. H. GRIFFITH, Governor of SALOP County Gaol, Shropshire.

The Principle acted on here is to keep the Prisoners as much and as usefully employed as possible, to allow them Rest at stated Intervals, when the Mind is still kept active by reading Lessons, &c. I entirely disapprove of solitary Confinement without Employment, unless it be for short Periods. No Doubt the Punishment must be intolerable, but it tends rather to enervate and crush the Mind than to give it that energetic Action which may effectually reform the Character. Solitary Confinement with Employment, as in America, may

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Salop.

may have a more beneficial Effect, but I doubt whether in England it would be attended with the same Advantages to the Prisoner in obtaining Subsistence after Liberation. In America the most indifferent Artizan by the most trifling and simple Art can earn sufficient for his Support, and during Imprisonment such Arts are taught for that Purpose, but the British Mechanic must possess more Skill than can be acquired by such Means.

I have ever urged the Necessity of filling the Prisoner's Time as much as possible with manual and mental Exercise, as being the most effectual Means of reforming his Habits. The generality of Crimes are the Result of Idleness and loose Habits, and these Evils must be cured before much Impression can be made upon the Character. The Disease is in the Mind, and by no means incurable, if properly treated. A rigid Discipline calculated to keep the Mind in lively Action, and prevent it as much as possible from sinking into its old Machinations, is, I conceive, the only Means of restoring it to its proper Tone. The Love of Order and Regularity is soon imbibed, and when this is done the Work of Reformation is nearly complete. I do not make the above Observations as being merely speculative, as I have in numerous Instances seen them realized. My present Groom was a convicted Felon, and sentenced to Two Years Imprisonment. His Father also was convicted of a different Crime, and received a like Sentence. Being an old Man, I had less Hope of Success than with his Son, as the juvenile Mind is more easily dealt with. I however observed each of them daily to conform to the enforced Regulations with less Pain to themselves, and before the Expiration of their Durance they performed their Duties with Alacrity and apparent Willingness. Each appeared to have acquired systematically some Principle for the Regulation of his future Conduct. On their Release I employed the old Man in my Garden until he was engaged by the Shropshire Coal Company, where he still is. The young Man, as I before observed, is my Groom. They have been out of Prison upwards of Three Years, and now can be well recommended, should they want Employment. A young Girl named ——— ——— was some Years ago tried for Arson, and acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, but imprisoned during the King's Pleasure. After about Twelve Years Confinement I petitioned for her Release, which being obtained, I received her into my own House as Servant. She has since married, and become a most respectable Woman. Having contracted with a Builder in Shrewsbury for the Erection of a new Street, I had Opportunities of obtaining Labour for several who would otherwise have left Prison entirely destitute. In upwards of Twenty Cases I have been but once deceived, and that was by a Man of desperate Character and bad Connexions. Two or Three employed as above learnt the Trade of Bricklaying, one of whom is now married, has a small Family, which he supports, and is considered a good Tradesman.

From these Facts I must advocate the Necessity of strict Discipline, and if some approved and perfect System could be introduced throughout England, so that all Gaols should be conducted on the same Principle, it would, I have no Doubt, be attended with the most beneficial Results. It is not uncommon to hear old Offenders mark their Comparisons, and show their Preference by saying that a Month in such a Gaol is worse than a Year in another.

I must observe, that the Effects of good Discipline may be soon lost on Offenders when liberated, if suffered long to remain unemployed. The Mind would soon relapse into its former State, new Crimes would be meditated, and the Work of Reformation become more difficult, if not entirely hopeless. I have much Pleasure in saying that Crime in Shropshire appears to be on the Decline; our Number of Prisoners has a less Average than for some Years back, and at our last Assize we had no Black List, as we call it here, which is a List of such Prisoners for Trial who have been before convicted, which I prepare and lay before the Court every Assize and Session. W. H. Griffith, Governor.

14th April 1835.

No. 11.—Remarks by John Sibly, Governor of Brixton House of Correction.

Brixton.

In some of my Answers to the Questions I have taken the Liberty to suggest the Propriety of adopting a modified System of solitary Confinement as a general Punishment; but I should fulfil your Request in a Manner very unsatisfactory to myself if I did not avail myself of this Opportunity most strongly and earnestly to solicit the Attention of your Committee to the Subject, as I have the most perfect Conviction that it is the only Mode of Punishment at all calculated to do good, all other Systems of Prison Discipline being on the whole ineffectual or injurious.

My Reasons for this Opinion are briefly these:—

1st. The Inefficiency of Tread-wheel Labour, on account of the Irregularity of its Excitement, its creating Irritation, of its holding out the strongest Temptations to Vice by affording Scope for all Manner of Falsehood and Deception, especially among Women, of the Impossibility of its being a general Punishment for medical Reasons.

2d. Or of any other Kind of Labour, since all Work must require more or less Communication.

3d. The Impossibility of wholly preventing Contamination under the best Regulations while Prisoners are at large, since the various Duties of the Officers of a Prison, and the various Employments of the Prisoners, render it impossible that they can be all always overlooked.

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Brixton.

4th. That Acquaintance by Sight (supposing Communication by Speech to be prevented) is an Evil less only in Degree, since the former will induce Recognition among discharged Prisoners nearly as much as the latter.

5th. The Inefficiency of Classification, which is calculated to injure as much as to benefit.

6th. That Company and Companionship, either by Speech or Sight, is the greatest Alleviation to Punishment; it destroys Reflection and prevents Reformation.

7th. The Expense of the System, which requires a great Number of Officers to preserve imperfect Discipline, as well as the long Period of hard Labour required to inflict the necessary Amount of Punishment.

8th. That long Confinements are ineffectual, since the few Prisoners so confined generally obtain Situations which greatly lighten the Sense of Punishment.

9th. That, on the other hand, the short Confinements of Seven or Ten Days to hard Labour can scarcely be said to be any Punishment at all.

10th. That modified solitary Confinement is the Reverse of all this; it destroys Irritation, Excitement, and all Inducement to Falsehood; wholly prevents that enormous Evil, Prison Contamination; presents Leisure and Situation for Reflection, which opens the Heart, and renders it susceptible of good Impressions; it is regular and powerful in its Operation, is much less expensive in consequence of the shorter Time required to inflict the necessary Punishment.

11th. Solitary Confinement may be easily modified, without destroying its Utility, by Books, by some simple Employment, by Visits from the Officers of the Prison, by short Exercise in the open Air.

12th. It is simple, natural, and the proper Mode of punishing a rational Being, and must be the most general of all Punishments.

13th. It may be adopted with perfect Safety, with common Care.

14th. That all Systems of Prison Discipline are merely Approximations to this.

15th. That it should be adopted before Trial as well as after, since the Case affords only Two Distinctions, viz. Contamination or Separation. If on Trial the Prisoner is found "Not guilty," he is discharged uninjured, or perhaps amended; if he is found "Guilty," the previous Confinement can be taken into consideration in his Sentence.

16th. That the Operation of the present Law is Mildness and Mercy to the hardened and confirmed Culprit, while it presses with tenfold Severity on the casual Offender.

JOHN SIBLY, Governor.

2d April 1835.

Sandwich.

No. 12.—OBSERVATIONS by JOHN MOURILYAN, Town Clerk of SANDWICH.

The present Discipline used in the Sandwich Gaol has most decidedly proved very beneficial, inasmuch as Crime has very much decreased since its Adoption, and more particularly Vagrancy. We have had but very few serious Offences committed for the last Four or Five Years, and there has not been one Prisoner committed to Gaol from the Town of Sandwich for the last Five Months, during which Period all the Crime has been committed in our Liberties of Ramsgate and Walmer.

It is found that profitable Labour does not leave so much Effect on the Mind as Labour which turns to no useful Account, which System of Punishment appears to the Prisoners more irksome and disgraceful.

Solitary Confinement on such as have transgressed by not observing the Rules of the Prison has proved of great Service; and the Gaoler is of opinion that One Month of solitary Confinement would be a more severe Punishment than Twelve Months hard Labour without it. Solitary Confinement has never been attended with any ill Consequence to the Health of any of the Prisoners who have been subjected to it.

JOHN MOURILYAN, Town Clerk.

11th April 1835.

Shepton Mallett.

No. 13.—OBSERVATIONS by F. B. MORGAN, Governor of SHEPTON MALLETT County House of Correction, Somerset.

There has been an Alteration in the Diet during the Year 1834; every Working Day each Prisoner has for Breakfast One Pint and a Half of Gruel; for Dinner, One Pound and a Half of Potatoes; for Supper, One Pint of Gruel, all made of Oatmeal—One Ounce of Meal makes One Pint—and, on Sundays, Half a Pound of Meat is allowed for Dinner, extra.

The Prisoners in the Gaol at Shepton increase every Year, and it is considered necessary to erect some single Cells, and also a Crank Mill, to work such Men as are unable to go on the Tread-wheel; and a Committee was appointed at the last Sessions to inquire into the Necessity, and to report thereon at the next Quarter Sessions.

F. B. MORGAN, Governor.

16th April 1835.

No. 14.—Remarks by William Seymour Esq., relative to Lewes House of Correction.

No. 9 a. Remarks and Observations with reference to solitary Confinement.

Lewes.

The Answers given by Mr. Ancell, Keeper of the Lewes House of Correction at Lewes, to your Circular of the 31st of March, were prepared under my Inspection, and I adopt them.

As to Questions 28, 29, and 30, I think they cannot be answered until after some Months of Inquiry.

As to further Suggestions, I beg leave to make the following:

I would in no Case subject any Offender to more than One Month at One Time to Solitary Confinement, without Employment, nor to a longer solitary Imprisonment with Employment, except where the Offender is liable to the Punishment of Death. My Opinion is, that Transportation should be the Punishment secondary to Death; that productive hard Labour should be the Punishment for Offences in the next or third Degree, with occasional Solitude; that Separation at Night and at Meals, and universal Silence, should be enforced with every Prisoner, and the utmost Endeavour used to procure productive Employment, working in Company, but in strict Silence. I think this Discipline cannot be effectually accomplished without general artificial Warmth throughout the Prison in the cold Months, and a Privy and Water laid on in every Cell, as at Lewes and Petworth Houses of Correction.

I earnestly recommend the Establishment of a Normal School for Turnkeys in the Metropolis; probably the best Place for it would be at the Coldbath Fields Silent Prison.

Prisoners sentenced to Transportation, or against whom Sentence of Death is recorded, should be detained in the nearest Prison to the Place of Trial, and thence removed to the Place of Embarkation by and at the Expense of Government, instead of being taken, as now, by the Gaoler to the County Gaol, and thence to the Place of Embarkation, at the Expense of the County.

Brighton, 15th April 1835. William Seymour.

No. 15.—Observations by Mr. E. A. Johnson, Governor of Swaffham County House of Correction, Norfolk.

Swaffham.

An Alteration is required here to prevent one Class from seeing the other. Day-rooms are the Root of every Evil. A sleeping Cell should never contain more than One Prisoner; no Intercourse whatever should be allowed. The Discipline of Silence has not been sanctioned here by the Magistracy, which of all other Punishments (if attended with Solitude) would be the best I can suggest to reform and make Prisoners useful Members of Society, also to cause a very considerable Reduction in the Expense of Maintenance, as short Imprisonment would be requisite. The Tread-wheel Labour at the usual Rate has been for several Years here, and each Prisoner is daily employed from Six till Six, except when engaged with the Chaplain and at his Meals. It would be a very great Improvement for each Prisoner to have a separate Compartment on the Wheel, but this would very much reduce the Number that could be employed on the present Wheels. This Alteration, with Silence, would entirely do away with the wrong Persons being classed together, which is unavoidable, and the Root of very many Evils. No Food should be received, or any Intercourse allowed with Prisoners and their Relations; and a fixed Diet, according with their Term of Imprisonment. I think a very great Benefit would accrue to the Country if destitute Prisoners were allowed to emigrate, with a Certainty of Employment on their Arrival in a penal Colony, and would be generally acceptable if a Portion of their Imprisonment were remitted. Due Care must be taken of their Embarkation. Parishes, I have no Doubt, would most anxiously subscribe to send them. I hope I shall not be considered too presumptuous in making these Observations, but I can assure you, Sir, it is most essential to prevent the Increase of Crime that great Care be taken in Classification; and if Solitude and Silence were adopted it would remedy the unavoidable Mischief of Intercourse. New Regulations are required as regards those who have been in Prison before, which in many Cases is not known to the committing Magistrate; and they are not worse off than the young Offender, and certainly ought to be subjected to increased Punishment.

E. A. Johnson, Governor.

No. 10.

ABSTRACT of RETURNS from CHAIRMEN of the QUARTER SESSIONS and CHIEF MAGISTRATES of Cities, Silence being enforced in Gaols

QUESTIONS.	*Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?*	*Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction enforced by Day and Night?*	*By what Means is the Rule enforced?*
BEDFORD	Yes, in the Houses of Correction; the Rule is enforced under the Authority of the Visiting Justices, confirmed by Quarter Session.	As strictly as possible.	By an Officer in constant Attendance, as an Overlooker.
BERKS	Yes, under the Authority of Visiting Justices.	Yes.	By the efficient Manner in which the Under Officers do their Duty.
ABINGDON	Yes, under the Authority of the Visiting Justices.	Yes.	By the Prisoners being nearly all under the Eye of the Turnkeys during the Day, and by sleeping separately at Night.
BUCKS	Yes, under Regulations agreed to by the present Court of Quarter Sessions, subject to the Approval of His Majesty's Judges of Assize.	—	—
CAMBRIDGE	No.	—	—
CHESTER	No.—The System of enforcing Silence, as a Means of Prison Discipline, has not yet been adopted either in the Gaol or House of Correction in this County.	—	—
CORNWALL	The Rules and Regulations of the Gaol and House of Correction for this County direct strict Silence to be maintained therein, authorized by the Visiting Justices of the Prison.	Yes.	By constant Inspection of the Turnkeys.
CUMBERLAND	There is, in the House of Correction at Carlisle; ordered by the Justices.	Yes.	By constant Inspection in the Daytime, and by being in separate Rooms at Night.
DERBY	No.	—	—
DEVON	*No Return.*		
DORSET	In the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Gaol and House of Correction at Dorchester, and which have been lately approved by the Justices in Session, and sanctioned by the Judges of Assize, there are Rules enforcing Silence generally, and pointing out the Mode of effecting it.	The Rules have been carried into effect in the Wards of the Convict Prisoners strictly by Day; but there not being always a sufficient Number of single Cells for all the Convicts, they have been necessarily placed together during the Night: when there are sufficient single sleeping Cells for all, Silence is strictly enforced by Night. Alterations are making within the Gaol, which will allow the Prisoners to be kept separate.	The Construction of the Prison not admitting of any Inspection from the Keeper's Apartments, Silence is enforced by stationing a Turnkey in each of the Courts where the Convict Prisoners are placed during the whole of the Day.

- - - - No. 10.

Boroughs, and Corporate Towns, to QUESTIONS from the Select Committee of the House of Lords, as to and Houses of Correction.

Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?	*How long has this Rule been in force?*	*What appears to have been the Effect from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
Solitary Confinement for a Term not exceeding Three Days.	Two Years.	Very satisfactory.	—
Two Days solitary Confinement for the First Offence; Three, the Second.	Nine Months.	Beneficial.	—
From One to Two and Three Days solitary Confinement, or Loss of their next Meal, according to the Character of the Offender.	Eighteen Months.	It appears to have had very beneficial Effects; only Two Re-committals to the Tread-mill during the last Six Months.	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	The Gaoler of his own Authority sends them during the Hour of Dinner to their Cells, instead of their taking their Meals together; and he states that this Regulation has been found beneficial.
—	—	—	
Yes, by being put in the Stocks, deprived of their extra Allowance of Food, or Double Labour at the Tread-wheel.	It was commenced by the present Governor when he took charge of the Prison in 1828, and has subsequently been made a general Rule of the Prison.	A decided Improvement in the Subordination of the Prisoners, and it is hoped may have produced some good Effects upon the Characters of the less hardened Prisoners.	—
By solitary Confinement for a short Period.	Since Michaelmas Sessions 1833.	From the orderly Conduct of Prisoners during Confinement, and the Paucity of Re-committals, the Effect appears to be good.	—
—	—	—	—
Any Violation of the Rule enforcing Silence is punished by being kept on Bread and Water for a limited Number of Days, and by close Confinement in the condemned solitary Cells.	The Rule enforcing Silence has been in operation nearly Six Months, under the Authority of the Visiting Justices, before the Rules could be framed for the Sanction of the Judges.	As far as Experience extends, the Effect has shown itself in the more humble Demeanor and subdued Spirit of the Prisoners. An Alteration of the Dietary took place at the same Period with the Introduction of the Discipline of Silence, which has also contributed to lower the Prisoners; and there is Reason to believe that some who have been discharged since the Introduction of the new Discipline have strongly expressed their Feeling of the Difference it has occasioned, by a Disinclination to be again subjected to it. In some Cases, when Prisoners have been subjected to hard Labour in default of paying Fines, or summary Convictions, a great Anxiety has shown itself to pay the Fine to avoid or to shorten the Imprisonment.	

QUESTIONS.	*Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?*	*Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction enforced by Day and Night?*	*By what Means is the Rule enforced?*
DURHAM	No Rule has yet been made by the Sessions for enforcing Silence, but Silence has been enforced during Hours of Work for the last Six Weeks, by Direction of the Visiting Magistrates, as an Experiment on a Report of the Benefit derived from it at Wakefield.	The Arrangement of the Prisons does not admit of Silence being strictly enforced during the Night.	Under the Superintendence of the Officers of the Prisons, assisted by Wardsmen, who are Prisoners.
ESSEX	No.	—	—
GLOUCESTER: Gaol and Penitentiary, GLOUCESTER. NORTHLEACH House of Correction. HORSLEY House of Correction. LAWFORD'S GATE House of Correction. LITTLE DEAN.	GAOL.—No written Rule, nor in any of our Prisons. It is considered as practically the Rule in the Penitentiary, perhaps under the Head of "Disobedience to the lawful Commands of the Governor," which is mentioned in the Rule Book. Among untried, no Silence is expected but when in Cells; but a great Noise in a Class would be interfered with.	GAOL.—On the Wheel, in passing to Dinner, and in Cells, undetected talking will sometimes occur. Those in solitary Confinement take their airing separately. HORSLEY.—Yes, hard-labour Class almost always orderly. Persons not on hard Labour are often singing and dancing. LAWFORD'S GATE.—Pretty well enforced when they are at work.	GAOL.—There are Partitions between every Man on the Wheel, and Two Officers in the Wheel-yard. At Night they can talk without being heard in Cells, even before Officers go to Bed. Officers at that Time don't go round, but would if they heard any thing. At Nine or Ten P. M. Officers go round to see all safe Outside each Cell. Officers Bedrooms are dispersed to a certain Degree about the Prison. Two in Penitentiary sleep in different Stories, and not very near each other. Night-watching only between the Buildings and the outward Wall. NORTHLEACH.—No Partitions on Wheel, but closely watched; Conversation very limited; Relays keep moving, and cannot well converse. Women wash, and may talk; so do those committed for Want of Sureties. Those committed to Labour, Men or Women, who are not washing, or on the Wheel, or in solitary Cells. HORSLEY.—In the Cells, if they talk, it would make so much Noise as probably to be heard. LAWFORD'S GATE.—In light Cells they can talk, when Keepers are asleep.
HANTS	By Authority of the Visiting Justices Silence is strictly enforced when the Prisoners are at work.	It is preserved by Night, but not during the Day when the Prisoners are off from Work.	By the Appointment of one of the best behaved of the Prisoners to each Mill-yard to keep guard, who is himself excused from Work, and by means of the Turnkeys perambulating the Passages during the Evening.
HEREFORD	Yes, there is a General Rule by the 4 G. 4. Rule 3, and Magistrates Orders.	Strictly so by Day and Night as far as Circumstances and the Nature of the Building of the Prison will allow of.	By separate working and sleeping Cells, and Attendance of the Officers.
HERTFORD	An Order has been made by the Visiting Magistrates, that the Prisoners confined in the House of Correction should observe strict Silence.	The Rule for keeping Silence is strictly enforced by Day; but from the Construction of the Prison there is no Means of preventing the Conversations of Prisoners by Night.	The Rule is enforced by a Turnkey appointed for that Purpose being present in each Yard during the whole Day.
HUNTINGDON	There is an Order affixed to the Tread-wheel Sheds enjoining strict Silence during the Hours of Labour, under the Authority of the Visiting Justices; and all convicted take their Meals in their Cells alone, under a Rule of the Gaol.	These Rules are strictly enforced.	By the constant Superintendence of the Keeper and Turnkeys.
KENT	No Rule or Regulation; the Prisoners, when at work, are ordered to keep Silence, by Authority of the Governor.	Under the same Authority Silence is enforced at Night.	By short Confinements to their Cells; always reported to a Visiting Justice.
LANCASTER	No.	—	—

Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?	*How long has this Rule been in force?*	*What appears to have been the Effect from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
Dark solitary Confinement on Bread and Water, not exceeding Three Days.	Six Weeks.	There has not been Time to ascertain the Effect of the System.	It was intended to propose at the present Sessions a Change in the Arrangements of the Prisons of this County, for the Purpose of enforcing Silence more generally among convicted Prisoners; but it is believed that the Question will now be adjourned until the Result of the Deliberations of the Committee shall be known.
—	—	—	—
Gaol.—If on Wheel, light Cell Confinement; at Night, light or dark Cells. Northleach.—Dark Cells.	Gaol.—Things have always been upon the present Footing, therefore Question 6 cannot be particularly answered.		It is generally observed among the Magistrates, that from the Construction of the Prisoners Cells, solitary Confinement is not complete, except at Gloucester.
Horsley.—Solitary Confinement.	Horsley.—At least Fourteen Years.	Horsley.—Beneficial.	
Lawford's Gate.—Dark Cells, if necessary further Punishment. Little Dean.—I believe not, but there are very few Prisoners; talking is much discouraged at least, and Silence is observed.	Lawford's Gate.—Ten Years at least.	Lawford's Gate.—The Effect has been good.	
By the stopping of each Offender's Mill Bread, consisting of Six Ounces, for the First Offence; and by solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days for a Repetition of the Offence.	One Year.	The Effects produced by this limited Restraint have been salutary; and a more extensive Separation of the Prisoners would be attended, in my Opinion, with increased beneficial Results.	—
Punishment by solitary Confinement in the dark and refractory Cells.	Since the Year 1819; and when the working Cells were finished, and the Means of more Separation allowed.	Their Conduct appears uniformly more orderly and decent.	—
Prisoners breaking the Rule are put on short Allowance of Food as a Punishment.	Since the Month of November 1833.	Good; the Committals have diminished: since the Adoption of this Rule the Conduct of the Prisoners is decidedly better.	—
Confinement in the Punishment Cell, for shorter or longer Periods.	The Order of the Visiting Justices about Two Years. The Gaol Rule, Sixteen Months.	Some Degree of Improvement in the orderly Conduct of the convicted Prisoners.	—
—	The Governor's Order has been in force Fourteen Years.	The Prisoners are kept orderly and quiet.	—
—	—	—	—

QUESTIONS.	*Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?*	*Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction enforced by Day and Night?*	*By what Means is the Rule enforced?*
LEICESTER - -	Yes, under the Rules, as Bye Laws made for the Government of the Gaol and House of Correction.	Yes, by Day and Night.	On pain of solitary Confinement for a Time, not exceeding Three Days, at the Discretion of the Gaoler.
LINCOLNSHIRE:			
SPALDING - -	No.	—	—
BOSTON - -	No.	—	—
KESTEVEN - -	A Rule was made to observe Silence by the Visiting Magistrates, on 1st of November last, by convicted Prisoners.	Yes.	By the Keeper and his Officers, and by solitary Confinement when the Officers cannot enforce it by Admonition.
LINDSEY - -	No.	—	—
MIDDLESEX - -	Yes; only in the House of Correction at Coldbath Fields, under the following Order:—"All Prisoners to pay strict Obedience to the Turnkeys, who are to enforce Silence and good Order;" which Order has been approved by the Two Chief Justices.	It is as much as possible Day and Night; for which Purpose the Prisoners are kept under constant and secret Inspection Day and Night, Lights being burned in the sleeping Rooms all Night, and Night Watches on the alert; every Movement of the Prisoners is made so as to prevent their Faces being turned to each other; they are never allowed to congregate or cluster together; they move in Military Lines in single File. When locked up for the Night, if not in single Cells, which is adopted whenever practicable. The Prisoners go each at once to his Bed; they need not undress or get into it the Moment they are locked up, but they must not get off their Beds after once locked up. This is enforced by incessant watching of Yardsmen and the Turnkeys of the Prison.	By the Prisoners being kept under constant and secret Inspection.
MONMOUTH - -	There are no Regulations in the Gaol or House of Correction for enforcing Silence.		
NORFOLK - - -	The Rule is, that Silence is to be observed whilst at work or in their Cells: this by Authority of Visiting Magistrates. In Day-rooms and Airing-yards they may talk, if they do not violate the Rules of Decorum.	It is strictly enforced on the Tread-wheel by Day, and in the Cells by Night.	By Loss of the Term of Rest from the Wheel, being deprived of the Liberty of going into the Day-room, or Loss of Part of daily Ration of Food for a Time.
NORTHAMPTON - -	No.	—	—
NORTHUMBERLAND -	There are no Rules or Regulations for the enforcing Silence in the Gaol or Houses of Correction in Northumberland, as that System has not been tried.		
NOTTINGHAM:			
SOUTHWELL - -	Yes; by Rules and Regulations allowed by the Judges in 1834.	By Day and Night, as far as the Number of single Cells, 135, will allow.	By employing the Prisoners singly in Day Cells, and partitioning the Tread-wheel.

Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?	*How long has this Rule been in force?*	*What appears to have been the Effect from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
Solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days.	Since 1827, when Rules and Orders, as Bye Laws, were established for the Government of the Gaol and House of Correction, under the 4 G. 4.	It has the Effect of keeping the Prisoners generally in better Order for a Time.	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
Answered at No. 1.	From the 1st of November last.	A good Effect, by the Expression of the Prisoners Dislike to it.	—
—	—	—	—
Violation of the Rule of Silence is punished by solitary Confinement and Loss of Provisions; and repeated Offences by the Extent of Punishment provided by the Prison Act, Sections 41 and 42.	Several Years; but has only been enforced in its present Strictness since 29th December last.	The good Effect is already most manifest on the Inmates of the Prison, and it is evidently a most irksome Restraint to them; and the Mode of enforcing Silence by a System pervading almost every Action of the Prisoner has an Effect on the general good Order of the Prison and the Prisoners, which is far beyond what would be generally anticipated.	I cannot conclude this Return to the Committee without calling their Lordships Attention to the very singular Position in which the Middlesex Magistrates are placed with reference to their County Gaol of Newgate, which is said to be situate in the City of London, and the Management of which therefore is claimed under the 13th Section of the Prison Act by the Court of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London. Thus ousted of any Control over their own County Gaol, the Magistrates of Middlesex have the Mortification to see it one of the most ill-conducted Gaols in the Kingdom. Scarcely one of the most important Provisions of the Prison Act is carried into effect in that Prison, while the Returns annually made to the House of Commons show a Mixture of Deceit and Insufficiency which ought not to pass unnoticed by the Legislature. The bad State of the Prison, the Want of proper Classification, and no proper Provision for hard Labour being made in the Prison, has caused an Unwillingness on the Part of many of the Middlesex Magistrates to commit to that Prison, and has caused them on many Occasions to fill the House of Correction to Overflow; while the Court of Mayor and Aldermen have taken advantage of this Feeling for many Years to save the City from being burdened with the unprofitable County Prisoners, they have actually at last refused point blank to receive Persons into Newgate regularly committed there by County Magistrates, to the great Annoyance of the Constables and all Parties concerned, and to the entire Frustration of the Ends of Justice in more Cases than One. The Fact is, the Gaol of Newgate is now only made available for such County Prisoners as by the Fees paid on their Trial or Conviction enrich the City Purse; and I trust their Lordships will consider these Matters worthy of their most serious Consideration. BENJ. ROTCH, Chairman of the Sessions.
—	—	—	—
—	For the last Eight or Nine Years; *i. e.* since the Improvement of the Gaol has enabled the Gaoler to classify and divide the Prisoners.	The Conduct of the Prisoners has been more orderly than when they were kept promiscuously together, without the Possibility of enforcing Silence.	These Answers apply to the County Gaol in Norwich Castle. The same Statement may be made of the other Gaols in the County of Norfolk. It seems our Regulations do not amount to such a strict Enforcement of absolute Silence as appears to form Part of the regular Discipline of some Gaols in Foreign Countries, particularly in America.
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
By Forfeiture of his Earnings, his Allowance of Milk; and the Punishments prescribed by the Gaol Act, 4 G. 4. c. 64.	Since the 2d of March 1835.	It is presumed that the Principles of the Prisoners will be improved, at least it may be affirmed that they cannot be deteriorated; and that the Contamination so mischievous and prevalent in Prisons will by this Discipline be in a great Measure prevented.	—

QUESTIONS.	*Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?*	*Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction enforced by Day and Night?*	*By what Means is the Rule enforced?*
OXFORD	There is no express Rule or Regulation. There is a general Order to the Turnkeys, who superintend the Prisoners during their Labour, to keep Silence and Order.	At Night the Prisoners are in separate Cells, and cannot communicate with each other.	—
RUTLAND	No.	—	—
SALOP	Since March 1834 by Visiting Justices, and previously by the Gaoler.	Yes.	Punishment.
SOMERSET	No.	—	—
STAFFORD	By Rules and Regulations sanctioned by the Judges at the Spring Assizes 1834.	Silence is strictly enforced by Day, but by Night Conversation will occur, as there is no Accommodation for an Officer in the Building; but this will be remedied.	By an Officer, who is always present whilst the Prisoners are at work; but there are not a sufficient Number to attend the Prisoners continually when in their Cells.
SUFFOLK	No.	—	—
SURREY	*No Return.*		
SUSSEX:			
Lewes	The following Rule for the Lewes House of Correction:— "Silence.—No Prisoner shall be permitted, on any Account or under any Pretence, to speak to or hold any Communication with any other Prisoner, without special Leave for that Purpose first obtained from the Keeper."—"The Keeper may order any Prisoner guilty of a Breach of this Rule to be deprived of his or her Supper, or to be placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days."—This Rule was ordered at the Epiphany Sessions, and approved by the Judges at the Spring Assizes.	Tolerably so.	See the Rule.
WARWICK:			
Gaol	No.	—	—
House of Correction	No Rule or Regulation; a Man attends the Hand-Grinding Mill, and preserves perfect Silence during the Prisoners Work.	By the above Method Silence is kept by Day, but there are no Means of enforcing it by Night.	—
WESTMORLAND	By Rules and Regulations enforcing Silence in the Gaol and House of Correction at Appleby, made by the Justices at Quarter Sessions, and approved and allowed by the Judges of Assize.	By Day, and as far as possible at Night.	By the Keepers and Under Keepers keeping constant Watch.

Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?	*How long has this Rule been in force?*	*What appears to have been the Effect from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
Should a Prisoner be reported by the Turnkeys for improper Behaviour, he would of course be punished by the Visiting Magistrates.	—	The Rules for the County of Oxford Gaol and House of Correction were revised and adapted to the 4 G. 4. last Year, and received the Sanction of the Judges of Assize, in which the following Rule has been introduced: "With a view to shortening the Duration of Imprisonments, all Prisoners in the House of Correction, whose Sentences shall not exceed One Month, shall have an Allowance of Bread and Water only, and shall work for Two Hours in each Day, and for the Remainder of the Twenty-four Hours shall be confined in their respective Cells." This Rule has been found to answer well; the young do not go out worse from Gaol from Contamination, and are in a better State to receive the Instruction of the Chaplain; and the older Offenders, who have been in Prison before, have a much greater Fear of being sent to Prison than under the old and longer Period of Imprisonment.
—	—	—	
Solitary Confinement and Abatement of Diet.	Since October 1823.	It appears to have a very salutary Effect upon their Conduct and Character.	
—	—	—	

Silence within the Walls of our Gaols and Houses of Correction would be attended with the most salutary Effects as to their internal Discipline, and the Disinclination (at present too rarely found) which would be thereby created for a Repetition of Confinement in such a State of Privation. At the same Time I trust I may be excused for hazarding the Opinion, that without some decisive Dictum or Legislative Enactment on the Subject, I should feel some Degree of Hesitation in making its Adoption compulsory.

Confinement in a dark Room or solitary Cell; Confinement at the Whipping Post, in the Presence of other Prisoners; Bread and Water Diet.	From the Month of April 1834.	Prisoners are more orderly and respectful; and as their Imprisonment is more severe, it is calculated to diminish Crime as well as to reform the Prisoners; but it is not known to what Extent or how far they have retrieved their Characters since their Discharge from Prison.	—
—	—	—	This Answer will apply to the House of Correction at Woodbridge, the County Gaol and House of Correction at Ipswich, and to the Liberty Gaol and House of Correction at Bury, at all which Places the Sessions for the County are held by Adjournment; except that some additional Rules have been lately settled by the Magistrates for the County Gaol and House of Correction at Ipswich, for enforcing Silence, which are now before the Judges of Gaol Delivery for their Certificate, under the 4 G. 4. c. 64.

See the Rule.	Already answered.	Great, as far as we can judge during so short an Experiment.	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	Silence is well preserved by Day, which has had a good Effect upon the Prisoners.	—
Solitary Confinement and Stoppage of Victuals.	Since last August Assizes.	The Effects, as far as can be collected from the short Time the Rule has been in operation, have been very beneficial.	—

QUESTIONS.	*Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?*	*Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction enforced by Day and Night?*	*By what Means is the Rule enforced?*
WILTS: DEVIZES HOUSE OF CORRECTION.	Silence is enforced. At the late Session an Order was made that the Visiting Justices should take steps to enforce it in the Bridewell Part of the Gaol at Salisbury. At Devizes no particular Order or Rule for enforcing it is in existence; the Practice has gradually grown up with the improved Discipline of the Prison.	It is enforced Day and Night.	There are no Day-rooms; the Prisoners are kept separate, each in a Cell, except when on the Tread-wheel. They take their Meals in their Cells, and daily Prayers are read to them by the Chaplain standing between every Two Wards, the Prisoners being still in their Cells. On the Tread-wheel they are separated by a Partition; and in walking to and from the Wheel they are required to keep at a considerable Distance from each other.
WORCESTER	Silence is enforced on the Tread-wheel, under the Orders of the Visiting Magistrates, or elsewhere, except in the Cells, which are not sufficient for all the Prisoners. The Arrangement of the Gaol does not admit of Silence being enforced.	Equally enforced by Day and Night, as far as is possible with the existing Number of Cells.	Infraction of Rule punished by solitary Confinement in dark Cells for from Twenty-four to Forty-eight Hours, or by short Allowances.
YORK (NORTH RIDING)	*No Return.*		
YORK (EAST RIDING): BEVERLEY	No Rule for Silence; but, by an Order made at the Spring Sessions, Silence is to be enforced as soon as certain Alterations necessary for the Purpose (now in progress) are completed; the Plan will probably be brought into operation at the next Midsummer Sessions.		
YORK (WEST RIDING): WAKEFIELD	Extract from the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the House of Correction at Wakefield, approved by the Judges at the Assizes at York, 27th March 1834.—"No Prisoner shall be permitted, on any Account or under any Pretence, to speak or to hold any Communication with any other Prisoner, without special Leave for that Purpose first had from the Governor."	These Rules are most strictly enforced by Day and Night.	By Wardsmen, chosen from the Prisoners, appointed by the Governor, and they under the constant Inspection of Superintendents appointed by the Visiting Magistrates: the whole under the active and vigilant Inspection of the Governor.
ANGLESEA	*No Return.*		
BRECON	*No Return.*		
CARDIGAN	There is no Rule or Regulation; but Silence is enforced.	Not so strictly as it might be enforced.	By solitary Confinement.
CARMARTHEN	There is no Rule or Regulation enforcing Silence in any Gaol or House of Correction in this County. J. JONES.		
CARNARVON	There is not any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in the Prisons of this County. R. A. POOLE.		
DENBIGH	No.	—	—
FLINT	There is no such desirable Rule in existence in the Gaol or House of Correction of the County of Flint. H. ROBERTS.		
GLAMORGAN	There is no such Rule either in the Gaol or House of Correction. JO. NICHOLL.		
MERIONETH	No. It would be very difficult to carry such a Regulation into effect, especially when the Gaol is crowded; happily this is not the Case at present.		
MONTGOMERY	No.	—	—
PEMBROKE	*No Return.*		
RADNOR	No.	—	—

Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?	*How long has this Rule been in force?*	*What appears to have been the Effect from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
A Prisoner detected in Conversation with another Prisoner is liable to be confined in a dark Cell for Three Days.	See Answer 1.	Since the System of complete Separation has been adopted the Conduct of the Prisoners has improved; the Orders have been better obeyed, and a greater Degree of Seriousness and Appearance of Reformation appear among them	—
—	About Five Years.	That Portion of the Prisoners with whom Silence can be enforced are much better conducted than those with whom it cannot.	—
—	—	—	—
The Keeper may order any Prisoner guilty of a Breach of this Rule (in answer to Question 1st) to be deprived of his or her Supper, or placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days.	Since 16th April 1834.	The Effect on the Prisoners is very striking; the most hardened and depraved are subdued and orderly; and those not entirely lost to all Sense of Propriety, although they feel the Irksomeness of Obedience to the Rule, and that it is a heavy Punishment, yet hail it as their best Security against the contaminating Tyranny and Bullying of their Fellow Prisoners. Perfect Decorum and Civility are manifested by the Prisoners. Having lately built new Wash-houses, &c. &c. for the Females, they have been subject to the same Rule about a Month, and the Effect is as perfect as that of the Males.	—
Solitary Confinement.	Eleven Years.	They become more orderly, and attend better to Instruction and Reading.	—
—	—	—	—
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QUESTIONS.	*Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?*	*Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction enforced by Day and Night?*	*By what Means is the Rule enforced?*
City of LONDON:			
NEWGATE	No.	—	—
BOROUGH GAOL	*No Return.*		
WESTMINSTER	*No Return.*		
BRISTOL:			
GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.	There are no Rules or Regulations for enforcing Silence in the Gaol or House of Correction, but due Care is taken to prevent unnecessary Noise among the Prisoners.		
CHESTER	There is no Rule for enforcing Silence in the City Gaol or House of Correction.		
COVENTRY	The Rules for enforcing Silence were made by the Magistrates at the Quarter Sessions held 7th April 1834, and enforced by the Judges of Assize the 4th of August following.	It is.	By the Appointment of Wardsmen amongst the Prisoners, who report to the Gaoler any Infraction of the Rule.
EXETER	*No Return.*		
GLOUCESTER	Silence is enforced as much as possible in the City Prison, but under no specific Rule; but it is impossible, constructed as the Gaol now is, wholly to prevent talking.	—	—
NORWICH: CITY GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.	There is not any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in the printed Rules or Regulations of this Prison.	Whenever Prisoners are heard talking upon the Wheel or in their Night Cells they are punished for it.	At the Gaoler's Discretion.
WORCESTER	Silence is enforced on the Treadmill under an Order of the Visiting Magistrates, elsewhere (except in the Cells, which are not sufficiently numerous for all the Prisoners,) the Arrangement of the Gaol does not admit of Silence being enforced.	Equally enforced by Day and Night as far as is possible with the existing Number of Cells.	Infraction of Rule punished by solitary Confinement in dark Cell for from 24 to 48 Hours, or by short Allowance.
YORK	No.	—	—
Town of HULL.	There are Rules for this Purpose, ordered at the July Sessions 1834, and approved and certified by Lord Lyndhurst and Mr. Baron Gurney at the Yorkshire Assizes following.	These Rules have not yet been enforced, in consequence of certain Alterations in the Prison being requisite for that Purpose, which are not yet completed, but are in progress.	By the Offender being deprived of his or her Supper.
LEICESTER	No Rule for enforcing Silence, except when in their Cells or sleeping Rooms at Night, by Order of the Visiting Magistrates.	Enforced only by Night.	On pain of solitary Confinement.
LIVERPOOL	No.	—	—
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	No.	—	—
NOTTINGHAM	No.	—	—
PORTSMOUTH	No Rule, but a Regulation when the Prisoners are locked up within their Cells at Night.	By Night.	By locking them up in solitary Apartments.

Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?	*How long has this Rule been in force?*	*What appears to have been the Effect from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
By Confinement to their Cells for One or Two Days, as the Case may require.	Since the 4th August 1834.	The Effects upon their Conduct whilst in the Prison have been very beneficial.	—
The Extent of Punishment, in case of noisy talking, is the locking up of the offending Parties for Two or Three Hours in separate Cells.	—	—	It may be proper to observe in addition, that our Gaol has of late been unusually full from the great Increase of the Trade of the Port; and to enforce Silence has been the more impracticable.
They are locked up for One, Two, or Three Days solitary.	This Practice has been adopted several Years.	They are quieter under this System than they otherwise would be; and if strictly enforced Day and Night there would be at least One Third less Committals yearly.	—
—	About Five Years.	That Portion of the Prisoners with whom Silence can be enforced are much better conducted than those with whom it cannot.	—
—	—	—	—
By the Offender being placed in solitary Confinement for any Term not exceeding Three Days.	Since the Summer Assizes 1834.	—	—
Solitary Confinement and on Bread and Water for any Term not exceeding Three Days.	For several Years.	Generally attended with good Effect upon the Conduct of the Offender, and a Warning to the others confined in the same Ward.	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
By locking them up in solitary Apartments.	Since October 1821.	Not any.	—

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

No. 11.

QUESTIONS sent, by Order of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Gaols, to the Gaolers of the under-mentioned Prisons, with reference to the Annual Returns respecting Gaols sent to the Secretary of State at Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834. With the ANSWERS thereto.

List of Prisons.

	Page.
Abingdon, Berks	136
Alnwick, Northumberland	145
Anglesea County Gaol	136
Bristol Gaol, Somerset	137
Do. House of Correction	ib.
Cardigan County Gaol	ib.
Carmarthen Gaol	ib.
Do. House of Correction	ib.
Carnarvon. *No Return.*	
Chester Castle	ib.
Knutsford House of Correction	138
Denbigh County Gaol	ib.
Exeter Gaol	ib.
Flint Gaol	ib.
Gosport, Hants	ib.
Hexham, Northumberland	139
Horsham, Sussex	ib.
Kirton, Lincoln	ib.
Kingston, Surrey	ib.
Louth, Lincoln	139
Merioneth Gaol	144
Monmouth House of Correction, Usk	139
Montgomery Gaol	140
Morpeth, Northumberland	ib.
Nottingham County Gaol	ib.
Nottingham Common Gaol	141
Pembroke Gaol	ib.
Portsmouth, Hants	ib.
Skirbeck, Lincoln	ib.
Swaffham, Norfolk	142
Tynemouth, Northumberland	ib.
Warwick Gaol	ib.
Woodbridge, Suffolk	143
Worcester Gaol	ib.
Wymondham, Norfolk	ib.
York, N. R., House of Correction	ib.
York, E. R. Do.	ib.

Abingdon.

Abingdon House of Correction, Berks.

State in what Manner the Prisoners under your Care are classed?—First, all Description of Male Prisoners for Trial, Ward No. 1. Second, all Description of Female Prisoners for Trial, Ward No. 2. Third, all Description of Female Prisoners convicted, Ward No. 3. Fourth, all Description of Male Prisoners convicted, occupying only their Cells, in which they take their Meals separately.

28. State what Measures have been taken to remedy this Defect?—This Defect is remedied with regard to convicted Prisoners, who are kept in their Cells apart (when not at Work), except in the Winter when there are more Prisoners than the Prison is capable of containing separately, when they are confined in their Cells, according to the Classes required by the Act of Parliament, as convicted Felons, convicted Misdemeanors, and Vagrants. The Magistrates have it in contemplation to divide the Ward No. 1 (now in use for all unconvicted Prisoners, Males,) into Two Parts, one for Male Prisoners committed on Charge of Felonies, and the other for Male Prisoners committed on Charge of Misdemeanors. There are Two Wards for Female Prisoners, being seldom more than Two Classes of Females in Custody, and often only One.

Are Prisoners under Sentence allowed to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No, unless ordered by the Surgeon.

SAM. WALKER, Keeper.

Anglesea.

Anglesea County Gaol and House of Correction, Beaumaris.

23. To whom is the 4*d.* per Day paid, and when?—To all Prisoners committed before Trial, and all Prisoners who may not be able to perform hard Labour; paid daily in some Cases, and in some Cases paid weekly in advance.

From whom do the Prisoners procure their Food?—From any Persons, as Market People, who come to the Prison Gates daily to offer Provisions for Sale, who are admitted in to sell the same to the Prisoners in the Presence of some of the Prison Officers.

27. Amount of Earnings, how applied, and in what Proportion to each Class of Prisoners, to the Officers of the Prison, and to the Fund applicable to the Maintenance of the said Prison?—Men earn about 6*d.* per Day, Females about 4*d.*, and receive all their Earnings, unless by special Orders.

From whom do the Prisoners who are paid the above receive their Provisions?—From Market People, who come to the Prison Gate to offer the same for Sale, the same as those who are paid 4*d.* per Day, as Answer to Question 23.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase Beer or Spirits, or to receive Money from their Friends?—No Beer nor Spirits permitted, unless by Order of the Surgeon. No Directions gave by the Justices to prevent their receiving Money from their Friends.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No.

457

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

City of Bristol Common Gaol, Somersetshire.

Bristol.

23. What is the weekly Cost per Head?—About 1*s.* 3*d.*

28. Has the Attention of the Magistrates been called to this Defect?—There are in the Gaol separate Wards for Misdemeanors committed for Trial, and those convicted, but in consequence of the House of Correction, which was destroyed in the Riots in October 1831, being still rebuilding, One of the Wards is at present appropriated to the Use of Prisoners committed on summary Convictions. In a short Time the new House of Correction will be finished, and both Wards will be then for their original Purpose.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No Spirits or Beer is allowed. Their Friends are permitted to bring them Provisions.

Are they permitted to smoke?—Yes.

City of Bristol House of Correction.

23. What is the weekly Cost per Head?—1*s.* 0½*d.*

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—The Prisoners under Sentence are allowed to receive Provisions from their Friends one Day in every Week, but are not permitted to purchase or receive Beer or Spirits.

Are they permitted to smoke?—They are, but not when at work.

THO. EVANS, Keeper.

Cardigan County Gaol and House of Correction.

Cardigan.

28. What Measures have been taken to remedy this Defect?—None. The Defects of these Prisons are not confined to the Want of Classes only; it is insecure, badly built by Contract, and the Airing-yards out of the Keeper's View, and unhealthy. The Yards on the Felon Side are too small and quite out of Inspection, the Building between them and the Morning Sun. The Day-rooms are too small and without Chimneys, with small Air-hole in the Side to emit Smoke, and moveable Grates and Culm Fuel, the Steam of it floating in the little Room, which makes it unwholesome; the Size of the Rooms are only 8½ Feet by 7½ Feet, and 10½ Feet in Height; sometimes are Six Prisoners in this small Room.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Are they allowed to smoke?—Yes. A little Tobacco is admitted to well-conducted Prisoners.

EVAN EVANS, Keeper.

Carmarthen Common Gaol.

Carmarthen.

23. To whom is this paid, and how often?—To the Prisoners, by the Treasurer of the County, from the County Stock, on every Saturday; each Prisoner being in the Receipt of the Allowance has the Option of laying out the same in the Manner he thinks most proper.

From whom do the Prisoners procure their Food?—A Person is daily in attendance to go Errands, and procure what Food they may require, who is an Assistant Turnkey in the Gaol and House of Correction.

JOHN BURNHILL, Governor.

Carmarthen House of Correction and Bridewell.

23. Transmit the Dietary?—The Prisoners are dieted at Seven-pence per Head per Day, which was and is paid from the County Stock. The Diet consists of a Pound and a Half of good Wheaten Bread, a Pound of Meat and Vegetables on Thursdays and Sundays, Two Quarts of Oatmeal for Broth, and Three Ounces of Cheese, each Prisoner, Three Times a Week.

28. Is the Act strictly complied with as to Classification?—The Classification required by the Act is in all respects strictly and duly complied with.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—Prisoners sentenced to Imprisonment in the House of Correction are prohibited from receiving any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends, and confined to the Prison Allowance only. No Ale or Spirits is allowed to be given any Prisoner, unless an Order is given by the Surgeon of the Gaol, to be given medicinally.

JOHN BURNHILL, Governor.

Chester Castle County Gaol.

Chester.

27. Are the Earnings paid to the Prisoner on his Discharge?—Yes.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No. In some Instances the Use of Tobacco has been permitted by the Direction of the Surgeon.

JNO. DUNSTAN, Constable.

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

Knutsford House of Correction, Chester.

Chester.

27. When do the Prisoners receive their Earnings?—On their Discharge.

28. State what Measures have been taken to remedy this Defect?—Not any.

State in what Manner the Prisoners under your Charge are classed?—No. 1. Felons before Trial. No. 2. Felons after Trial, employed as Weavers, &c. No. 4. Felons after Trial, on the Tread-mill. No. 3. Misdemeanors sentenced to hard Labour, both on summary Convictions by Magistrates, by Court of Assize and Quarter Sessions (including Poaching and Bastardy). No. 8. Misdemeanors before Trial, and after Conviction not sentenced to hard Labour, including Convictions before Magistrates where hard Labour is not Part of the Punishment. Female Felons before Trial, Female Felons after Trial, and Misdemeanors, are kept separate.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No.

George Burgess, Governor.

Denbigh.

Denbigh County Gaol and House of Correction, Ruthin.

23. When is the weekly Allowance of 2*s*. 6*d*. paid to each Prisoner?—They receive Goods on Tuesday and Saturday to the Amount of their weekly Allowance.

31. Reasons for Non-employment of Prisoners, with reference to Column 15?—All Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour are employed upon the Tread-mill; there is no other Means of Labour used in the Gaol.

From whom do the Prisoners receive their Food?—From a Provision Warehouseman, who attends at the Gaol every Tuesday and Saturday with the Goods.

Are they permitted to smoke?—Each Prisoner may smoke Half an Ounce of Tobacco each Week, which they provide out of their weekly Allowance, or otherwise.

Exeter.

City of Exeter Common Gaol and House of Correction.

28. Has the Attention of the Magistrates been called to this Defect?—Yes, there is a Report made to that Effect every Sessions, which is Four Times a Year.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—Prisoners at hard Labour allowed a moderate Quantity of Provisions from their Friends twice a Week, besides the Gaol Allowance of Half a Pound of Mutton on Tuesdays and Fridays. Prisoners not to hard Labour have no Meat from the Gaol, but are allowed a moderate Quantity from their Friends Three Times a Week; they may purchase or have sent them One Pint of Beer in a Week. No Spirits are allowed. In some Cases, by Order of the Magistrates, Prisoners are not allowed to have any thing but the Gaol Allowance.

Are they allowed to smoke?—Yes.

Jno. Geo. Gully, Keeper.

Flint.

Flint Gaol and House of Correction.

23. To whom is the 3*s*. per Week paid?—To the Baker for Bread; to Tradesmen for Potatoes, Oatmeal, &c.

28. How are the Prisoners under your Charge classed?—1st. Prisoners before Trial. 2d. Felons undergoing their Sentences. 3d. Misdemeanants undergoing their Sentences, and Prisoners confined for Want of Sureties.

30. Have any Measures been taken for providing separate Apartments for the sick, Male and Female?—No.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Food from their Friends?—None.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No.

Edward Prichard, Gaoler.

Gosport.

Gosport County Bridewell and House of Correction, Hants.

28. What Measures have been adopted to remedy this Defect?—No Measures have been adopted, as there are not a sufficient Number of Day-rooms and Yards to admit of the Classification required by the 4 Geo. 4.

30. Have any Measures been taken to remedy the Defect of Want of separate Apartment for the sick, Male and Female?—No Measures have been taken; when Prisoners are ordered to keep their Beds they are locked up in their sleeping Cells.

28. How are the Prisoners under your Charge at present classed?—One Yard for all Description of Females; One Yard for Deserters and Soldiers under Sentences of Court-martial; One Yard for other Male Prisoners of all Classes, except Vagrants, who have a Yard to themselves; making Four Yards and Four Day-rooms.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer or Spirits or Provisions from their Friends?—Not allowed, except by an Order from the Visiting Justices.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No smoking allowed in this Prison.

John Macklin, Governor.

459

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

Hexham House of Correction, Northumberland.

Hexham.

23. From whom do the Prisoners purchase their Food?—Prisoners receive 4*d.* per Head every Morning, with which they purchase their Food of Ann Eliott, Grocer.

29. Why has no Chaplain been appointed?—There has never been any Application for a Chaplain.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer or Spirits from their Friends?—No Beer or Spirits allowed in this Prison.

Are they permitted to smoke?—Prisoners are permitted to smoke.

Horsham County Gaol, Sussex.

Horsham.

28. Has the Attention of the Visiting Justices been called to this Defect of Classification?—I have reported it to the Visiting Justices, and likewise at the Quarter Sessions, several Times; but the Reason why no Alteration has yet been made in Classification is, that as there is a Bill before the Two Houses of Parliament relating to the Management of Gaols, and there has been some Idea of removing the County Gaol altogether, they have thought it unadvisable to expend a large Sum 'till the Act has been passed, or some Conclusion has been come to respecting the Removal of the Gaol of this County.

On the 1st of May 1835 what was the Number of Prisoners convicted of Felony?—Four Males, One Female.

Number of Misdemeanants?—Fifteen Males.

Number of Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation?—Two Males, One Female.

Reasons why they have not been removed?—The Female Convict has been removed to Woolwich, but the Surgeon of the Ship reported her to be unfit to take the Voyage on account of her being ruptured, and an Order was sent from the Secretary of State to me to bring her back to Horsham. The Two Male Transports I made a Return to the Secretary of State for their Removal on Sunday last, but I have not as yet received an Order.

B. Doswill, Keeper.

Kirton House of Correction, Lincoln.

Kirton.

30. Are there separate Buildings or Apartments provided for the sick, Male and Female?—Two Apartments for sick Male Prisoners, and Two for sick Female Prisoners.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Are they permitted to smoke?—Yes.

John Lee, Keeper.

Kingston House of Correction, Surrey.

Kingston.

28. Have any Measures been taken to remedy the Defect of Want of Classification?—None, beyond the following Arrangements: The classing of Prisoners in Kingston House of Correction is as follows:—1st. Male and Female Prisoners under summary Convictions of Magistrates, where not ordered to be punished by hard Labour; the reputed Fathers of Bastard Children, before any Order of Filiation made; and Deserters. 2d. Male and Female Prisoners intended to be examined as Witnesses on behalf of the Crown in any Prosecution. There being but One Yard and One Mess or Day Room, each for the general Use of the Prisoners, Male and Female, the usual Plan adopted with those belonging to the latter Class is to sleep them in a Room by themselves, and during the Day to bring them to the Keeper's private Yard, where they are occupied in some domestic or other useful Employment, as Circumstances may suggest.

W. Ritchie, Keeper.

Louth House of Correction, Lincoln.

Louth.

30. Are separate Apartments or Buildings provided for the sick, Male and Female?—There are no separate Apartments or Buildings provided for sick Prisoners, either Male or Female; Rooms in the upper Story are occasionally used for the sick.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No Prisoners are permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends, either under Sentence or before Trial, except Debtors, and they are not allowed to have either Beer or Spirits.

Are they permitted to smoke?—No Prisoner is permitted to smoke.

Rich. Cox, Keeper.

Monmouth House of Correction and Bridewell at Usk.

Monmouth.

28. What Measures have been taken to remedy this Defect?—None to my Knowledge.

Are untried Females ever confined with those convicted?—No, not since the latter End of the Year 1833.

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

30. Is there a separate Building or Ward for Female sick?—Yes, there is a Hospital Room for Females when sick.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Food from their Friends?—No.

JOHN MERRETT, Governor.

Montgomery House of Correction and Common Gaol.

Montgomery.

23. To whom is the 2*s.* 6*d.* per Week paid?—It is paid to the Prisoner himself every Monday Morning, if he is to remain in Custody for the Week, otherwise he is paid for the Number of Days he has to remain.

From whom does the Prisoner receive his Food?—Bakers residing in the Town attend at the Gaol every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Eight o'Clock in the Morning, with Bread of different Sizes, and each Prisoner buys what he pleases; and a Female Servant of the Gaoler goes into the Town every Day at Nine, Two, and Five o'Clock, and brings each Prisoner what Food he orders, such as Bacon, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Milk, Potatoes, &c., he giving her Money to pay for whatever is required.

JOHN LLOYD, Gaoler.

Morpeth.

Morpeth Gaol and House of Correction, Northumberland.

23. To whom is the 4*d.* a Day paid, and when?—The 4*d.* a Day is paid to each Prisoner every Day except Sundays and Wednesdays; the Wednesday's Payment is made on the Tuesdays, and the Sunday's Payment is made on the Saturdays.

From whom do the Prisoners purchase their Food?—From Thomas Halden, Baker, Grocer, and Flour Dealer; George Halden, Butcher; Mary Proctor, Gardener; and George Bartley, Milkman.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—They are not allowed to purchase or receive Beer or Spirits; some of them on particular Occasions receive a little Bread or a few Potatoes from their Friends.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No; the Magistrates have lately given Orders that no Prisoner is to be allowed to use Tobacco.

JOHN BLAKE, Keeper.

Nottinghamshire.

Nottingham County Gaol.

Sir,

I beg leave to transmit the Answers to the Questions inquired of as to the Prisoners weekly Maintenance and Cost per Head during the last Year, which I hope will be sufficiently explained to be understood; also a Letter from W. B. Martin, Esq., one of the Visiting Justices of this Gaol. Should there be any further Information required would be very glad to attend to it.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

To J. W. Birch, Esq. R. B. BRIERLEY, Gaoler.

23. When are the Prisoners paid the 2*s.* 11*d.*—It will be seen on reference to the Question No. 23. it is as follows: "Dietary or other weekly Allowance and weekly Cost per Head?" The Answer is "2*s.* 11*d.*, out of which the Prisoners find their own Coal." This 2*s.* 11*d.* was not actually paid to the Prisoner, but furnished to him in the following Manner: 1 Loaf of Bread per Day, weighing 1½lb. at 2½*d.* the Loaf; 2 Pints of Milk per Day, the Cost of which was 1½*d.*; and each Prisoner was allowed 1*d.* per Day in Money, which was placed at his own Disposal, and appropriated by him in the Purchase of Fuel and small additional Articles for his Comfort: the Amount then stood as follows:—Seven Loaves of Bread, at 2½*d.*, 1*s.* 5½*d.*; Seven Days Milk, at 1½*d.*, 10½*d.*; Seven Days Pence, at 1*d.* per Day, 7*d.*; Total 2*s.* 11*d.* It ought, however, to be here stated, that at the Michaelmas Sessions 1834 the Magistrates ordered the Pence paid to the Prisoners to be discontinued being paid to them, but the Amount thereof to be expended by the Gaoler, under the Superintendence of the Visiting Justices, in the Purchase of Fuel and other Articles as required for their Benefit, and which is now done.

From whom do they purchase their Food and Coals?—The Bread and Milk are supplied to the Prison by different Tradesmen as from Time to Time are approved of by the Visiting Justices. The Coals have, for Convenience, been brought to the Gaol in large Quantities, and supplied to the Prisoners, as wanted, at Cost Price.

Sir,

In addition to the Answers rendered by Mr. Brierley, I beg to furnish you with the Reasons for the Appropriation of the Felons Pence to a different Purpose from heretofore. Formerly the Pence were paid weekly to the Felons, who, out of them, found their Coals, and applied the Surplus to such Purpose as they thought proper. I found that this Practice was productive of constant Quarrels, and that we never were without Three or Four in solitary Confinement. We now take the Pence, find them their Coals, and to all such as are well conducted a Pound of Meat on Sunday of such Sort as they select.

This

461

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

Nottinghamshire

This Alteration was authorized by a General Meeting of Justices in October last, and of course during the Winter Half we have been barely able to find Coals and continue the Indulgence; during the Summer we shall probably get a Sum beforehand, which will be appropriated in Mileage Allowances to discharged Prisoners, and in Necessaries, where wanted. We have found the best Results from this Practice, our Yards are now quiet and orderly, and we were from the 2d January to the 24th of March, nearly One Quarter without One Instance of solitary Confinement. Their Coals and the Pound of Meat are procured for them by the Gaoler at the Market Price, and give them perfect Satisfaction.

Your obedient humble Servant,
W. Kennet Martin, V.J.

To J. W. Birch, Esq.

Sir,

I beg leave to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 27th of April instant, relative to Thomas and John Hopwell's Imprisonment in this Gaol. In answer thereto I beg to state, after they were sentenced to Transportation they were not confined in the same Cell, Day-room, or Yard with Prisoners who had not been tried.

They were in my Custody Five Weeks from the Time of their Conviction to the Time of their Removal.

Your most obedient humble Servant,
R. B. Brierley, Gaoler.

To J. W. Birch, Esq.

Nottingham.

Town of Nottingham Common Gaol.

30. Has the Attention of the Magistrates been called to this Defect?—The Attention of the Magistrates has been called to this Defect. Separate Apartments are appropriated for the Reception of the sick when the Surgeon deems it needful.

G. Vason, Gaoler.

Pembroke.

Pembroke Gaol and House of Correction.

22. Can the Men see the Women when on the Tread-mill?—They cannot.

28. Was the Attention of the Visiting Justices called to this Defect?—The Magistrates generally are aware of this Defect.

Thos. Jones, Governor.

Portsmouth.

Portsmouth Common Gaol and House of Correction.

29. Has there never been a Chaplain to the Portsmouth Gaol and House of Correction?—There has never been a Chaplain to the Portsmouth Gaol and House of Correction.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour are not permitted to receive Provisions of any Kind from their Friends. Debtors and Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour are permitted to have Beer and Provisions brought in to them.

Are they allowed to smoke?—Debtors and Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour are allowed to smoke, but no other Prisoner.

Has any Instance occurred in which untried Prisoners, Male or Female, have been placed in the same Ward with convicted ones?—Untried Prisoners are sometimes of Necessity confined with convicted ones, the Prison not being large enough to classify the Prisoners as required by the 4 Geo. 4.

Edw. Hunt, Keeper.

Sir,

In answer to your Letter of the 30th Ultimo I beg to inform you that the Visiting Justices are perfectly aware that the Classification required is not complied with, and also that a Chaplain has not been appointed under the Gaol Act.

If a Prisoner wishes to be taught to read, a Fellow Prisoner who is competent is appointed to teach him or her, who is appointed by the Gaoler, but has no Salary.

None taught to read during the Year 1834, ending at Michaelmas.

Separate Apartments are provided for the Male and Female Sick.

The Majority of the Prisoners committed can read, and many of those who cannot are confined too short a Period to learn.

Your obedient Servant,
Edw. Hunt.

Skirbeck.

Skirbeck House of Correction, Lincoln.

23. Send the Dietary or other weekly Allowance?—No Dietary; Allowance of 6*d.* a Day a Head is laid out in Bread, Meat, and Vegetables, to the best Advantage, as Prisoners choose.

29. Why has there not been a Chaplain appointed?—No Chaplain has been appointed to this House of Correction, it being used solely for Prisoners before Trial and on summary Process. The principal House of Correction for the Parts of Holland is at Spalding, where Prisoners under Sentence are sent from hence.

W. Appleby, Keeper.

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns,

Swaffham.

Swaffham Gaol, Norfolk.

28. Has the Attention of the Visiting Magistrates been called to this Infraction of the Gaol Act?—I have always pointed out this Defect in my Report to each Quarter Sessions, as required by 4 Geo. 4. Cap. 64. Section 14.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—None whatever.

Are they permitted to smoke?—No smoking allowed by any one in the Prison.

E. A. Johnson, Governor.

Tynemouth.

Tynemouth House of Correction, Northumberland.

23. From whom do the Prisoners purchase their Food?—The Prisoners purchase their Food of Tradesmen, who are admitted into the Prison for the Purpose of retailing the Articles in which they deal. The Keeper uses every Means in his Power in seeing that the Food so furnished is wholesome, and bought at as reasonable a Rate as possible.

28, 29, 30. Has the Attention of the Visiting Justices been called to these Infractions of the Gaol Act?—This Prison is now being enlarged, so that Classification may and will be better attended to when the Alterations are completed.

29. The Answer to this cannot be more fully explained than has been. The Magistrates have not appointed any Chaplain for this Prison, but every Exertion is used by the Keeper in improving the Morals of the Prisoners, and in their Instruction.

30. A Surgeon, resident in the Town, attends when any Prisoner is sick; and, when the Alterations before alluded to are completed, a Sick Room can be provided.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence perrmitted to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Samuel Hall, Keeper.

Warwick.

Warwick Common Gaol.

22. In what Class and with whom are the Male Debtors confined?—There are Two distinct Yards, one for the Master Debtors, the other for the Poor Debtors.

33. With whom are the Insane Prisoners confined?—William Timpson, now in Custody, confined in the Boys Yard, No. 5, is perfectly sane.—But Insane Persons committed for Felony are confined in Yards Nos. 1 and 2; and Misdemeanors in Nos. 3 and 4.

Harry Adkins, Keeper.

Answers to the following Questions respecting William Timpson.

1. Was he tried?—At the Lent Assizes 1833.
2. By whom ordered to remain in Gaol?—By Order of Court.
3. By whose Order removed to Plaistow?—By His Majesty's Command—Lansdowne.
4. By whose Order removed to the Suffolk County Asylum?—By His Majesty's Command—Robert Peel.
5. By what Authority brought back to Warwick Gaol?—By His Majesty's Command—Melbourne.
6. Has an Application been made to the Secretary of State for his Removal to a Lunatic Asylum?—Application was made to the Secretary of State, 20th July 1833.

Harry Adkins, Keeper.

Warrant for the Reception back of William Timpson in the Gaol for the County of Warwick.

William R.

Whereas William Timpson was, at the Gaol Delivery holden at Warwick, in and for the County of Warwick, on Wednesday the 15th Day of August 1827, found, upon his Arraignment, to be insane, by a Jury lawfully impannelled for that Purpose, and to be unable to take his Trial upon an Indictment then and there preferred against him for Murder; and the Court, in the pursuance of the Act of Parliament made and passed in the 39th and 40th Years of the Reign of King George the Third, did order the said William Timpson to be kept in strict Custody in the Gaol for the said County until Our Pleasure should be known:

And whereas His late Majesty did, by Warrant under His Royal Sign Manual, bearing Date the 3d Day of November 1827, order the said William Timpson to be removed from the said Gaol to the Lunatic Asylum at Plaistow in the County of Essex, kept by Stephen Casey, Gentleman:

And whereas His late Majesty was further pleased, by Warrant under His Royal Sign Manual, bearing Date the 30th Day of May 1829, to order the said William Timpson to be

removed from the said Lunatic Asylum at Plaistow to the Lunatic Asylum for the County of Suffolk:

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

And whereas it hath been humbly represented unto Us that the said William Timpson is now of sound Mind, We, taking the Premises into Our Royal Consideration, do, by virtue of the before-mentioned Act, hereby signify Our Pleasure, that you do receive the said William Timpson, from the said Lunatic Asylum for the County of Suffolk, and keep in Custody in the said Gaol for the County of Warwick, until Our further Pleasure shall be known. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given at Our Court at St. James's, the 16th Day of January 1833, in the Third Year of Our Reign.

Warwick.

To Our trusty and well-beloved the High Sheriff of the County of Warwick, and all others whom it may concern. } By His Majesty's Command. MELBOURNE.

Woodbridge House of Correction, Suffolk.

Woodbridge.

28 & 30. Has the Attention of the Visiting Magistrates been called to these Defects?—The Magistrates have taken no Steps as to the Cases pointed at under Questions No. 28 and 30; the Reasons are stated in the Answer No. 34.

WILLIAM FIRK, Keeper.

City of Worcester Gaol, Bridewell, and House of Correction

Worcester.

22. Are the Prisoners under your Charge classed?—Yes: 1st, Male Prisoners for Trial; 2d, Male Prisoners convicted; 3d, Vagrants; 4th, Females for Trial; 5th, Females convicted; 6th, Transports; 7th, Master Debtors; 8th Poor Debtors.

23. State the weekly Cost per Head?—2*s*. 2½*d*. at this Time.

31. Answer. Prisoners for Examination only, and discharged, 58; solitary Confinement only, 34; removed to other Prisons, 17; Prisoners tried and found not guilty, 3; Bastardy before Birth, 2; fined and paid their Fines, 7; or Want of Bail, 5; unable to work, 2; Deserter, 1.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—They are not allowed to buy any thing, except Tobacco.

WILLIAM GRIFFITHS, Keeper.

Wymondham House of Correction, Norfolk.

Wymondham.

22. How are the Prisoners under your Charge classed?—No. 1, Prisoners for Trial; No. 2, Prisoners convicted of Felony; No. 3, Prisoners summarily convicted.

30. What Measures have been taken to provide separate Buildings or Apartments for the Male and Female sick?—No Males received for Imprisonment.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or receive Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—Those before Trial allowed to buy One Pint of Milk daily.

Are they allowed to smoke?—No.

THOMAS JOHNSON, Keeper.

York, North Riding, House of Correction at North Allerton.

York, North Riding.

28. Has the Attention of the Visiting Justices been called to this Defect?—The Attention of the Visiting Justices has been called to this Defect, but they have not yet been able to make the Alteration in the Female Prison required for carrying that Part of the Gaol Act into effect.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No Prisoner under Sentence is permitted to purchase or receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from his Friends.

Are they allowed to smoke?—Not unless allowed by the Doctor.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD, Gaoler.

York, East Riding, House of Correction at Beverley.

York, East Riding.

23. Transmit the Dietary:—

East Riding of the County of York.

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace of Sovereign Lord the King, held at the New Sessions House in Beverley, in and for the said Riding, on Tuesday the 12th Day of July 1825, Richard Bethell, Esq., in the Chair, the following Order was made: Ordered, That the following Diet Tables be adopted in the House of Correction at Beverley as the Allowance by the Riding to such Persons as may require the same; and that all Prisoners who

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

York East Riding.

who are confined under the Sentence of any Court, or in pursuance of any Conviction before a Justice, be strictly confined to such Tables, with the Exception of being permitted to purchase, out of their own Money, One Pound of Contract Bread per Diem, at the Contract Price, unless under special Circumstances, to be judged of by One or more Visiting Justices: and that all Persons confined in the House not included in the above Order, and who do not require any Allowance of Provisions from the Riding, be allowed to purchase such Provisions (in moderation) as may be necessary for their own Consumption, with the Exception of strong Liquors.

The Diet Table for Prisoners in general.

Days.	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	One Quart of Oatmeal Pottage, Half a Pound of Bread	One Quart of Stew of Heads and Bones, &c., with Half a Pound of Potatoes	Same as Breakfast.
Monday	Same	One Quart of Oatmeal Pottage, Half a Pound of Bread	Same.
Tuesday	Same	Same as Sunday	Same.
Wednesday	Same	Same as Monday	Same.
Thursday	Same	Five Ounces of Beef, without Bone, after boiling, One Pound of Potatoes	Same.
Friday	Same	One Quart of Broth from Beef of Yesterday, &c., Half a Pound of Bread, with Leeks or Onions, and a Quarter of an Ounce of Oatmeal for each Prisoner	Same.
Saturday	Same	Same as Monday	Same.

The Diet Table for Prisoners employed at the Tread-mill.

Days.	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	One Quart of Oatmeal Pottage, Half a Pound of Bread	One Quart of Stew of Heads and Bones, with Half a Pound of Potatoes and Half a Pound of Bread	Same as Breakfast.
Monday	Same	Same as Sunday	Same.
Tuesday	Same	Same as Monday	Same.
Wednesday	Same	Five Ounces of Beef, without Bone, after boiling, One Pound of Potatoes, and Half a Pound of Bread	Same.
Thursday	Same	Three Fourths of a Quart of Broth from Beef of Yesterday, &c., Half a Pound of Bread, with suitable Vegetables, and Six Ounces of Flour made into a Dumpling	Same.
Friday	Same	Same as Wednesday	Same.
Saturday	Same	Same as Thursday	Same.

By the Court,
John Lockwood,
Deputy Clerk of the Peace for the said Riding.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No Prisoners under Sentence are permitted to purchase or receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends, excepting the same be ordered during Illness by the Medical Attendant who visits the Prison (which in that Case are provided at the Expense of the Riding).

Are they allowed to smoke?—None of the Prisoners are allowed to smoke or chew Tobacco under any Consideration whatever.

Merioneth.

Merioneth Gaol and House of Correction.

23. Who regulates the Amount of Food to be given to Prisoners?—Themselves; they are allowed 2*s.* 6*d.* per Week in Money.

To whom is the 2*s.* 6*d.* weekly Allowance paid; to the Prisoner, or to whom?—To the Prisoner himself.

From whom do the Prisoners purchase their Food?—Whoever they please.

28. How

465

No. 11. Questions sent to Gaolers with reference to the Annual Returns.

28. How are the Prisoners under your Charge classed?—I have Rooms for Male and Female Debtors, Male and Female Criminals, and the House of Correction besides.

30. What Measures have been taken to provide separate Buildings or Apartments for the sick?—None, and none required.

Are Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive Beer, Spirits, and Provisions from their Friends?—Every thing except Spirits.

Are the Prisoners allowed to smoke?—No Objection; I wish there was.

LEWIS WILLIAMS, Gaoler.

Alnwick.

Alnwick House of Correction, Northumberland.

23. Send the Dietary?—I cannot answer this more fully than I have done in Schedule returned herewith.

24. State the Amount of the Sum you received under this Head from the County, from the Michaelmas Sessions 1833 to the same Period in 1834?—£11 14*s.* 6*d.*

28, 29, 30. Has the Attention of the Visiting Magistrates been called to these Infractions of the Gaol Act?—They are aware of them.

Sir, House of Lords, 8th May 1835.

With reference to the Reply which you have sent to my Communication of the 18th of April, I am desired to request you to return written Answers to the following Queries:—

What is the Name of the Keeper of the House of Correction at Alnwick?—Jane Cousins.

Does the Keeper constantly reside within the Prison?—Yes.

When was the Appointment made?—Above Twenty Years ago.

It appears that the Return presented to the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834 was signed by "Jane Cousins." Who is Jane Cousins?—The Keeper of the Prison.

The Reply to my Letter of the 18th Ultimo is signed "James Cousins." Who is he?—An Assistant to Jane Cousins.

What Relation to Jane Cousins?—Her Son.

Cannot the Keeper of the House of Correction at Alnwick inform the Committee of the Amount of Food given to every Prisoner?—To the Amount or Value of Four-pence per Day.

Is the Keeper permitted by the Visiting Magistrates to use his own Discretion as to Amount and Quality of Food?—The Visiting Justices are aware of the Kind and Quality of Food, and it has their Approbation.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to purchase or to receive any Beer, Spirits, or Provisions from their Friends?—No.

Are the Prisoners under Sentence permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?—Yes.

Is an Officer present at these Visits?—Yes.

Are Prisoners under Sentence allowed to smoke?—They are not entirely prohibited, but the Allowance is very limited.

Jane Cousins, Keeper of the House of Correction, Alnwick.

J. W. BIRCH, Clerk to Committee.

Sir, Alnwick, House of Correction, 13th May 1835.

With reference to yours of the 8th Instant, I beg leave to state, that my Father was Keeper of the House of Correction here, and at his Death, above Twenty Years ago, my Mother was appointed in his Place, with my Assistance. We have always lived in the House, and there has been no new Appointment since my Father's Death.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
JAMES COUSINS.

J. W. Birch, Esq.
House of Lords.

No. 12. Remarks on the State of Gaols and Houses of Correction.

No. 12.

Remarks on the State of Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales by George Thomas Bullar, Esq.

The following Remarks on the State of the Gaols, &c. in England and Wales, are intended to apply principally to the Construction and Capacity of the Buildings, and the best Means of providing a separate Cell therein for each Prisoner, this being considered one of the most desirable Objects in Prison Arrangements.

Several of the Gaols were erected at a Period when the safe Custody of the Criminal appears to have been considered the chief Object of Imprisonment, and the Importance of Solitude, or even of Separation at Night, was not regarded. Although in Howard's Time many new Prisons were formed on improved Principles, yet these Defects seem to have been but partially removed. The best Gaols erected at this Period (about 1780) were on the Quadrangular or Square Form, having a Range of Rooms or Cells on each Side of a Corridor or Middle Passage; but, owing to the injudicious Construction of the Cells, Prisoners could easily converse together at Night, and in these new Gaols no Means were provided for the secret Inspection of the Day-rooms and Airing-courts. It is to be lamented, that from the Want of defined Principles of Prison Architecture, in several Places of Confinement more recently constructed, the injudicious Arrangement of the Buildings appears calculated to exclude the Inmates from the Officer's View, while the limited Means of Separation and Space for Labour afford Scope for Idleness, corrupt Intercourse, and mutual Debasement.

There is, perhaps, no Circumstance resulting from the improper Construction of Gaols more mischievous in its Effects than the Want of separate sleeping Cells, by reason of which serious Obstacles are presented to the Prisoner's Reformation, which might be promoted by solitary Confinement at Night, when the Evils of criminal Association are aggravated by the Absence of Inspection and Control. Great Advantages must result from having a separate Cell provided for every Prisoner, inasmuch as whatever may be the particular Punishment to which an Offender shall be subjected on Conviction, whether solitary Confinement, hard Labour, or productive Employment, separate Cells present the most efficient Means for its Accomplishment, affording the best Protection against Contamination, and, by inducing Habits of Reflection, assist in promoting the Prisoner's Moral and Religious Improvement. The Benefits of minute Classification are also thereby attainable in the smallest Gaols, an Object of great Importance in Local Jurisdictions. In regard to Prisoners before Trial being placed in separate Cells during the Day, if such Persons are allowed occasionally to be visited by their Relatives or Friends, they can have no just Cause to complain of being excluded from Association with other Offenders; and as it is impossible to prevent mutual Contamination when Prisoners are permitted to converse together, it becomes indispensable that when the untried are occasionally admitted into the Yards for Exercise, they should be compelled to maintain strict Silence. No Person is committed for Trial until the Magistrate has decided, from the Oath of Witnesses, that there is a primâ facie Case of Guilt; and it becomes the Duty of the Legislature to make Provision for preserving the Morals, as well as securing the Person of the accused, without subjecting them to unnecessary Severity.

It is found, from an Analysis of the Gaol Returns, that of 136 Prisons which are included in the Act (4 Geo. 4. c. 64.) Thirty-six only had a sufficient Number of Cells to admit of each Offender being placed apart at Night. The total Number of Persons confined in these Prisons at One Time in the last Year was 18,197; but the Number of sleeping Rooms and Cells therein was only 11,704, leaving a Deficiency of about 6,500 Cells. In several Prisons of the largest Description, which were originally constructed without any single Cells (such as Newgate, Clerkenwell, &c.), the Number of Persons in each Night-room varies from Ten to Twenty, while in many Gaols which contain single Cells the Increase in the Number of Offenders has of late Years rendered it necessary to place Three or more Prisoners together at Night. There are altogether, in the Prisons included in the Act, about 1,300 Day-rooms, most of which, with the large sleeping Rooms, may be altered and divided into single Cells; but even with this Subdivision it appears that there would still be a Deficiency of about 3,500 Cells, to provide for the Separation of the greatest Number of Prisoners in Confinement at One Time, as the Space usually allotted for each Individual in the large sleeping Rooms does not exceed Two Feet Six Inches, which is scarcely Half the Width requisite for a single Cell*; in such Cases it will be necessary to construct additional Buildings. To provide the Number of Cells requisite for the Separation of the greatest Number of Prisoners confined at One Time in the several Gaols, Houses of Correction, &c. included in the Act, it is estimated will cost 203,061*l.*, the Particulars of which are annexed to this Statement.

* Each sleeping Cell should be Eight Feet by Six Feet, and Nine Feet high, and so constructed as to prevent the Possibility of Prisoners communicating with each other from Cell to Cell. Those Cells in which it is intended that Convicts should be employed separately in strict Solitude must not be less than Ten Feet by Eight Feet, and Ten Feet high.

It

467

No. 12. Remarks on the State of Gaols and Houses of Correction.

It is to be lamented that the Act of 4 Geo. 4. did not provide for the solitary Confinement of the higher Classes of Criminals after Conviction, and render it imperative on the respective Counties, Cities, &c. to provide a separate sleeping Cell for every Prisoner; for, notwithstanding the Exertions which have been made by the Magistrates to render the Gaols conformable to the Statute, scarcely any of them contain Cells of sufficient Capacity or proper Construction for Confinement in absolute Solitude; and hence this most efficient System of reformatory Punishment, from being injudiciously administered, has failed to produce the desired Effects.

In some Places the present Sites of the Gaols are so limited as not to admit of an Extension of the Buildings; and in such Instances it will generally be found that the Situation is inconvenient or inappropriate, from being in the midst of a County Town or populous City. It must likewise be remarked, with regard to any new Prisons which may be required, that should the Plan be adopted of placing each Offender in a separate Cell during the Day, as well as at Night, it will be unnecessary to provide Wards or Day-rooms for the Purpose of Classification and Subdivision; but at the same Time, the Means of constantly inspecting the Corridors or Cell Galleries becomes indispensable; and this important Object can only be attained in Buildings on the radiating Plan, which afford the greatest Facility of Access to the various Departments, are calculated to preclude Communication between the Prisoners, and combine perfect Security with Salubrity.

From a careful Examination of the Plans of the several Prisons included in the Gaol Act, (Copies of most of which are deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State for the Home Department,) as far as it regards their peculiar Form of Construction, &c., they may be generally classed in the following Order:—

	No.
Prisons on the Radiating Plan, having the Means of central Inspection into the Buildings and Airing-courts	15
Do. on the Radiating Plan, with Wing-buildings attached to the Centre	10
Do. on the Radiating Plan, but in which the Inspection is incomplete	18
Do. on the Circular or Polygonal Plan, with Buildings round the Courts	13
Do. on the Quadrangular Plan, or with parallel Buildings	41
Do. irregular Plans with modern Additions	11
Do. Do. (chiefly old Prisons)	28
Total	136

A Reference to the Plans collected at the Home Office would enable the Committee to judge of the defective Arrangement of many Prison Buildings, and demonstrate the Necessity of laying down some fixed Principles to be observed in the Construction of these Establishments.

General Estimate of the Expenses of altering or enlarging the County Prisons, &c. in England and Wales (included in Act 4 Geo. 4. c. 64.) in order to provide separate sleeping Cells for the greatest Number of Prisoners confined at One Time in the Year 1834.

Note.—The new Cells are estimated at 40*l.* each, and the additional Cells, from dividing the Day-rooms, &c., at 20*l.* each, except in some Cases where the Estimates are taken from those made by the County Surveyors, agreeably to Parliamentary Returns. (No. 484, Session 1833.)

England.	Greatest Number of Prisoners at One Time.	Number of sleeping Rooms or Cells.	Number of Day-rooms or Wards.	Additional Cells may be made by dividing the large Rooms.	New Cells wanting.	Estimated Expenses.
						£
Bedford:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	81	50	7	12	19	1,000
Do. New House of Correction	80	52	4	8	20	960
Berks:						
Reading County Gaol and House of Correction	181	64	21	42	75	3,840
Abingdon House of Correction	73	40	3	12	21	1,080
Bucks:						
Aylesbury County Gaol and House of Correction	220	140	20	76	4	1,340
Cambridge:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	122	72	10	20	30	1,600
Wisbech House of Correction	No Return.	—	—	—	—	—
Ely - Do. - Do.	Do.	—	—	—	—	—
Chester:						
County Gaol	196	123	12	36	37	2,200
City Gaol and House of Correction	50	27	12	24	—	480
Knutsford County House of Correction	323	162	8	66	95	5,120
Cornwall:						
Bodmin County Gaol and House of Correction	142	179	14	—	—	—
Launceston County House of Correction	No Return.					
Cumberland:						
Carlisle County Gaol and House of Correction	96	120	13	—	—	—
Whitehaven County House of Correction	No Return.	—	—	—	—	—

ENGLAND — *continued.*	Greatest Number of Prisoners at One Time.	Number of sleeping Rooms or Cells.	Number of Day-rooms or Wards.	Additional Cells may be made by dividing the large Rooms.	New Cells wanting.	Estimated Expenses.
						£
Derby:						
County Gaol and House of Correction - -	202	161	22	29	12	1,060
Devon:						
Exeter County Gaol - - -	157	175	14	22	} —	1,520
Do. - House of Correction - -	156	72	12	54		
Do. City Gaol and House of Correction -	44	39	8	—	—	—
Dorset:						
Dorchester County Gaol and House of Correction	180	83	14	76	21	2,360
Durham:						
County Gaol and House of Correction - -	154	48	21	68	38	2,880
Essex:						
Chelmsford County Gaol and House of Corr^{n} -	74	85	12	—	—	—
Springfield - Do. - Do. - -	286	229	18	54	3	1,200
Ilford County House of Correction - -	66	48	5	10	8	520
Halstead - Do. - Do. - -	64	35	5	10	19	960
Newport - Do. - Do. - -	14	7	2	7	—	140
Colchester - Do. - Do. - -	5	4	2	—	—	—
Gloucester:						
County Gaol - - - - -	228	146	10	20	62	2,880
City Gaol and House of Correction - -	30	12	4	20	—	400
Horsley County House of Correction - -	65	80	3	—	—	—
Northleach - Do. - - -	62	77	2	—	—	—
Littledean - Do. - - -	19	23	4	—	—	—
Lawfords Gate - Do. - - -	39	54	3	—	—	—
Hants:						
Winchester County Gaol - - -	138	98	10	20	20	1,200
Do. - House of Correction -	236	105	12	48	83	4,280
Gosport - Do. - Do. - -	48	25	4	18	5	560
Newport (Isle of Wight) Do. - - -	No Return.					
Portsmouth Borough Gaol and House of Corr^{n}	64	50	9	18	—	360
Hereford:						
County Gaol and House of Correction - -	129	113	10	—	6	240
Herts:						
County Gaol and House of Correction - -	139	89	12	36	14	1,280
Huntingdon:						
County Gaol and House of Correction -	53	49	8	—	—	—
Kent:						
Maidstone County Gaol and House of Corr^{n} -	533	453	39	80	—	1,600
Canterbury - Do. - Do. - -	96	51	9	18	27	1,440
Lancaster:						
County Gaol - - - - -	496	235	33	99	162	8,460
Liverpool, Kirkdale County House of Corr^{n} -	712	384	21	92	236	11,280
Manchester, Salford - Do. - -	626	522	24	120	—	2,400
Preston County House of Correction - -	293	172	12	24	97	4,360
Liverpool Borough Prison - - -	145	326	14	—	—	—
Leicester:						
County Gaol - - - -	116	116	17	—	—	—
Do. House of Correction - - -	147	44	13	29	74	3,540
Borough Gaol - - - -	45	36	4	12	—	240
Do. House of Correction - -	34	31	3	—	—	—
Lincoln:						
County Gaol - - - - -	55	27	12	16	12	800
Louth County House of Correction - -	111	60	10	36	15	1,320
Kirton - Do. - Do. - -	88	28	9	29	31	1,820
Folkingham - Do. - Do. - -	68	37	10	15	16	940
Spalding - Do. - Do. - -	54	48	7	—	—	—
Spilsby - Do. - Do. - -	66	69	13	—	—	—
Skirbeck - Do. - Do. - -	27	—	11	11	5	420
Middlesex:						
Clerkenwell County Gaol - - -	414	32	10	132	250	12,200
Cold Bath Fields House of Correction - -	1,245	417	34	324	504	23,438
Newgate, London City Gaol - - -	414	52	10	129	233	11,900
Giltspur Street, Do. House of Correction -	163	22	10	28	113	5,080
Westminster City Gaol and House of Correction	355	500	48	—	—	—
Monmouth:						
County Gaol and House of Correction - -	70	41	10	30	—	600
Usk County House of Correction - -	54	18	4	16	20	1,120
Norfolk:						
Norwich County Gaol and House of Correction	252	230	18	36	—	720
Do. City Gaol and House of Correction -	141	114	14	28	—	560
Walsingham County House of Correction -	112	40	6	36	36	2,160
Swaffham - Do. - Do. - -	64	40	3	30	—	300
Wymondham - Do. - Do. - -	28	22	3	6	—	120
Northampton:						
County Gaol and House of Correction - -	164	80	12	24	60	2,880

England—*continued.*	Greatest Number of Prisoners at One Time.	Number of sleeping Rooms or Cells.	Number of Day-rooms or Wards.	Additional Cells may be made by dividing the large Rooms.	New Cells wanting.	Estimated Expenses.
						£
Northumberland :						
Morpeth County Gaol and House of Correction	80	54	14	28	—	560
Tynemouth House of Correction - -	23	14	2	4	5	280
Alnwick - Do. - Do. - - -	15	8	2	6	1	160
Hexham - Do. - Do. - - -	12	—	6	6	—	120
Newcastle Town Gaol and House of Correction	157	66	13	48	43	2,680
Nottingham :						
County Gaol - - - - -	58	42	9	18	—	360
Southwell County House of Correction -	184	137	24	48	—	960
Nottingham Town Gaol - - -	48	16	3	6	26	1,160
Do. - House of Correction -	108	102	11	—	—	—
Oxford :						
County Gaol and House of Correction -	230	137	11	35	58	3,020
Rutland :						
Oakham County Gaol and House of Correction	12	32	7	—	—	—
Shropshire :						
Shrewsbury County Gaol and House of Correction	218	157	26	87	—	900
Somerset :						
Ilchester County Gaol - - -	125	67	12	60	—	1,200
Shepton Mallett House of Correction - -	303	45	19	172	86	5,537
Wilton - Do. - Do. - -	144	28	14	120	—	2,400
Bristol City Gaol and House of Correction -	214	198	10	40	—	800
Do. - Old Prison - - - -	No Return.					
Stafford :						
County Gaol and House of Correction -	360	325	19	40	—	800
Suffolk :						
Bury County Gaol and House of Correction -	184	140	14	28	16	1,200
Ipswich - Do. - Do. - -	178	143	11	22	13	960
Beccles County House of Correction - -	47	24	8	16	7	356
Woodbridge - Do. - Do. - -	21	16	2	—	3	120
Surrey :						
Newington County Gaol - - -	321	230	10	76	15	1,870
Brixton County House of Correction - -	270	160	10	—	100	4,000
Guildford - Do. - Do. - -	134	89	1	3	42	1,740
Kingston - Do. - Do. - -	38	10	2	6	22	1,000
Southwark Borough Gaol and House of Corr^{n}	96	8	5	19	69	3,140
Sussex:						
Horsham County Gaol - - -	90	59	8	16	15	920
Lewes County House of Correction - -	167	136	9	18	13	880
Petworth - Do. - Do. - -	106	109	2	—	—	—
Battle - Do. - Do. - -	12	8	4	—	—	—
Warwick :						
County Gaol - - - -	244	146	9	45	53	3,020
Do. House of Correction - - -	219	64	9	92	63	4,360
Coventry City Gaol and House of Correction -	70	86	10	—	—	—
Westmorland :						
Appleby County Gaol and House of Correction -	27	33	10	—	—	—
Kendal County House of Correction.	No Return.					
Wilts :						
Salisbury County Gaol - - -	118	96	10	17	5	540
Devizes County House of Correction - -	231	210	—	—	21	840
Do. Old Bridewell - - - -	54	12	4	40	2	480
Marlborough Do. - - - -	19	10	4	12	—	240
Worcester:						
County Gaol and House of Correction -	236	79	11	102	55	4,240
City Gaol and House of Correction - -	38	51	8	—	—	—
York :						
County Gaol - - - - -	207	185	17	34	—	680
City Gaol - - - - -	27	50	9	—	—	—
Do. House of Correction - -	35	30	6	—	—	—
North Allerton, North Riding, House of Corr^{n} -	76	58	7	18	—	360
Beverley, East Riding - Do. - -	127	67	14	42	18	1,560
Wakefield, West Riding - Do. - -	510	347	19	62	107	5,520
Kingston-upon-Hull Town Gaol & House of Corr^{n}	126	93	18	36	—	720
Total England - -	17,723	11,360	1,246	3,628	3,341	198,841

Wales.	Greatest Number of Prisoners at One Time.	Number of sleeping Rooms or Cells.	Number of Day-rooms or Wards.	Additional Cells may be made by dividing the large Rooms.	New Cells wanting.	Estimated Expenses.
						£
Anglesey:						
Beaumaris County Gaol and House of Corrn	16	16	6	—	—	—
Brecon:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	36	24	5	20	—	280
Cardigan:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	20	22	6	—	—	—
Carmarthen:						
County Gaol	15	23	—	—	—	—
House of Correction	20	26	4	—	—	—
Carnarvon:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	32	14	3	10	5	400
Denbigh:						
Ruthen County Gaol and House of Correction	55	12	6	29	14	1,140
Flint:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	25	10	4	8	7	440
Glamorgan:						
Cardiff County Gaol	71	43	12	28	—	560
Swansea House of Correction	40	30	4	8	2	240
Merioneth:						
Dolgelly County Gaol and House of Correction	18	—	3	18	—	360
Montgomery:						
County Gaol and House of Correction	46	53	8	—	—	—
Pembroke:						
Haverfordwest County Gaol and House of Corrn	71	45	8	12	14	800
Radnor:						
Presteign County Gaol and House of Correction	9	32	3	—	—	—
Total Wales	474	350	72	133	42	4,220
Total England	17,723	11,360	1,246	3,628	3,341	198,841
Total England and Wales	18,197	11,704	1,318	3,761	3,383	203,061

SUMMARY.

England	£	England — *cont.*	£
Bedford	1,960	Middlesex	52,618
Berks	4,920	Monmouth	1,720
Bucks	1,340	Norfolk	3,860
Cambridge	1,600	Northampton	2,880
Chester	7,800	Northumberland	3,800
Cornwall	—	Nottingham	2,480
Cumberland	—	Oxford	3,020
Derby	1,060	Rutland	—
Devon	1,520	Shropshire	900
Dorset	2,360	Somerset	9,937
Durham	2,880	Stafford	800
Essex	2,820	Suffolk	2,636
Gloucester	3,280	Surrey	11,750
Hants	6,400	Sussex	1,800
Hereford	240	Warwick	7,380
Herts	1,280	Westmorland	—
Huntingdon	—	Wilts	2,100
Kent	3,040	Worcester	4,240
Lancaster	26,500	York	8,840
Leicester	3,780		
Lincoln	5,300	Total	198,841

Wales.	£
Anglesey	—
Brecon	280
Cardigan	—
Carmarthen	—
Carnarvon	400
Denbigh	1,140
Flint	440
Glamorgan	800
Merioneth	360
Montgomery	—
Pembroke	800
Radnor	—
Total	4,220

Total England and Wales - - £203,061.

No. 13.

Extracts relative to Gaols from Report and Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

Die Martis, 5° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

THE Lord in the Chair lays upon the Table the following Paper, which had been prepared in pursuance of the Order of the Committee.

The same is inspected.

Extracts relating to Gaols from the First Report and Appendixes 1 and 2 of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Municipal Corporations of England and Wales, 1835.

Extracts relating to Gaols from the First Report and Appendixes 1 and 2 of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Municipal Corporations of England and Wales, 1835.

Index to the Extracts.

Extract from First Report, Page 151
Extracts from Appendixes:
Abingdon, Berks - - 152
Andover, Hants - - *ib.*
Axbridge, Somerset - - *ib.*
Banbury, Oxford - - *ib.*
Barnstaple, Devon - - 153
Basingstoke, Hants - *ib.*
Bath, Somerset - - *ib.*
Bideford, Devon - - *ib.*
Bodmin, Cornwall - - 154
Brading, Hants - - *ib.*
Bradnich, Devon - - *ib.*
Brecon, Brecknock - - *ib.*
Bridgwater, Somerset - *ib.*
Bridport, Dorset - - *ib.*
Bristol, Somerset - - *ib.*
Buckingham, Bucks - 157
Cardiff, Glamorgan - *ib.*
Calne, Wilts - - *ib.*
Canterbury, Kent - - *ib.*
Carmarthen, Carmarthen - *ib.*
Chichester, Sussex - - 158
Chipping Norton, Oxford - *ib.*
Cowbridge, Glamorgan - *ib.*
Dartmouth, Devon - - *ib.*
Deal, Kent - - *ib.*
Devizes, Wilts - - *ib.*
Dorchester, Dorset - - *ib.*
Dovor, Kent - - *ib.*
Droitwich, Worcester - 159
East Looe, Cornwall - *ib.*
Evesham, Worcester - *ib.*
Exeter, Devon - - *ib.*
Falmouth, Cornwall - *ib.*
Feversham, Kent - - *ib.*
Folkestone, Kent - - 160
Fordwich, Kent - - *ib.*

Extracts from Appendixes:—*cont.*
Gloucester, Gloucester Page 160
Godalming, Surrey - - *ib.*
Hastings, Sussex - - *ib.*
Haverfordwest, - - *ib.*
Helston, Cornwall - - 161
Henley, Oxford - - *ib.*
Hereford, Hereford - *ib.*
Hythe, Kent - - *ib.*
Kidwelly, Carmarthen - *ib.*
Laughame, Carmarthen - *ib.*
Launceston, Cornwall - *ib.*
Leominster, Hereford - *ib.*
Liskeard, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Llandovery, Carmarthen - 162
Lostwithel, Cornwall - *ib.*
Lydd, Kent - - *ib.*
Lyme Regis, Dorset - *ib.*
Lymington, Hants - - *ib.*
Maidstone, Kent - - *ib.*
Marazion, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Monmouth, Monmouth - *ib.*
Neath, Glamorgan - - *ib.*
Newbury, Berks - - *ib.*
Newport, Monmouth - 163
Newport, Isle of Wight - *ib.*
New Radnor, Radnor - *ib.*
Okehampton, Devon - *ib.*
Oxford, Oxon - - *ib.*
Pembroke, Pembroke - *ib.*
Penryn, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Penzance, Cornwall - *ib.*
Pevensey, Sussex - - *ib.*
Plymouth, Devon - - *ib.*
Plympton Earle, Devon - 164
Poole, Dorset - - *ib.*
Portsmouth, Hants - *ib.*

Extracts from Appendixes:—*cont.*
Queenborough, Kent Page 164
Reading, Berks - - *ib.*
Rochester, Kent - - *ib.*
Romney Marsh, Kent - 165
Romsey, Hants - - *ib.*
Rye, Sussex - - *ib.*
Salisbury, Wilts - - *ib.*
Saltash, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Sandwich, Kent - - *ib.*
Seaford, Kent - - 166
Shaftesbury, Dorset - *ib.*
Southampton, Hants - - *ib.*
South Molton, Devon - *ib.*
St. Ives, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Swansea, Glamorgan - *ib.*
Tenby, Pembroke - - *ib.*
Tenterden, Kent - - 167
Tewkesbury, Gloucester - *ib.*
Tiverton, Devon - - *ib.*
Torrington, Devon - *ib.*
Totness, Devon - - *ib.*
Tregony, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Truro, Cornwall - - *ib.*
Usk, Monmouth - - *ib.*
Wallingford, Berks - *ib.*
Wareham, Dorset - - *ib.*
Wells, Somerset - - *ib.*
Westbury, Wilts - - *ib.*
West Looe, Cornwall - 168
Weymouth, Dorset - - *ib.*
Wilton, Wilts - - *ib.*
Winchelsea, Sussex - - *ib.*
Winchester, Hants - *ib.*
Woodstock, Oxon - - 169
Worcester, Worcester - *ib.*
Wycomb, Bucks - - *ib.*

Extracts from First Report.

55. In nearly all the Boroughs possessing Criminal Jurisdiction, there are Gaols under the Superintendence of the Corporation or Municipal Magistrates. Sometimes the Expenses of the Gaols are defrayed by the Corporation, sometimes out of a Borough Rate, sometimes out of the Poor Rate. In many Boroughs the same Gaol is used indiscriminately for Criminals and for the Prisoners committed by the Court of Record. The poor Debtors occasionally receive a small Allowance from the Report, p. 29.

No. 13. Extracts from Report on Municipal Corporations.

the Corporation whilst in Confinement. In Boroughs where the Municipal Magistrates commit to the County Gaol, the Borough Gaols are only used as Places of temporary Confinement. Sometimes Prisoners are committed at once to the County Gaol until Trial, brought back for Trial to the Borough Sessions, and finally sent again to the County Gaol to undergo the Punishment adjudged to them.

Debtors taken under Process from the Court of Record of the Borough must remain in the Borough Gaol.

Report, p. 42.

101. In the State of the Borough Gaols we find additional Proofs of the Evils of continuing the present Constitution of the local Tribunals. Instances rarely occur in which the Borough Gaols admit of any proper Classification of the Prisoners. In some large Towns, as at Berwick-upon-Tweed, Southampton, and Southwark, they are in a very discreditable Condition. In many of the smaller Boroughs they are totally unfit for the Confinement of Human Beings. In these Places the Prisoners are often without a proper Supply of Air and Light; frequently the Gaols are mere Dungeons under the Town Hall. In such Receptacles it is impossible to put a Prisoner to work, or to separate the Criminals and the Debtors.

Felons may often be committed to the County Gaol when the Borough Gaol is in an insufficient State; but this Power does not extend to Prisoners committed from the Civil Court, and thus Debtors may be immured in Places of Confinement not thought fit for the Reception of Criminals. It was frequently stated, that the Gaol of the Borough was in so unfit a State for the Reception of Prisoners, that Plaintiffs were unwilling to consign the Defendants against whom they had procured Execution to Confinement within its Walls. At Saltash, it was said that the same Feeling prevented the Prosecution of Criminals.

Where the Corporate Bodies possess the Means of improving the Condition of the Gaols, the Blame of their present State admits of no Palliation. Many Corporations are unable to defray the Expense of maintaining Places of Confinement more suitable than those they now possess.

Extracts from the Appendix, Parts I. and II.

Abingdon Gaol, Berks, p. 5.

There is an old Gaol, chiefly used as a Place of Confinement before final Commitment.

For the Corporation have purchased the Privilege of committing to the County Bridewell by a Grant of the Land on which that Bridewell is erected. The Borough Prisoners, however, are supported out of the Borough Rate.

Andover Gaol, Hants, p. 1086.

There is a Gaol in the Borough; it was built partly by the Parish and partly by Subscription; it stands on Ground belonging to the Corporation. The Gaoler is appointed by the Borough Magistrates; he has no Salary and no Fees, but he is allowed to live Rent-free in a House adjoining the Gaol. There is no Turnkey or other Officer under him. There are Four Rooms for Prisoners, but no Provision for setting them to hard Labour. Five is the greatest Number that has been in the Gaol at once during the last Nine Years; now there are Four, Three imprisoned for One Month, and One for Three Months. The Gaol is occasionally visited by the Borough Magistrates, but not at stated Periods. The Gaol Allowance is 4*d.* per Day; this is paid by the Overseers of the Parish from the Poor Rate to the Gaoler, who provides for the Prisoners. Prisoners committed previous to Trial, if willing to work, are allowed 7*d.*; the additional Charge is also borne by the Parish, which receives the Value of the Work done.

Whenever Prisoners are taken to the County Gaol at Winchester, which is but seldom, the Expense of Removal in like Manner is borne by the Poor Rate, as are all Expenses of every Kind connected with the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Borough. The Repairs of the Gaol alone appear to be defrayed by the Corporation. The Gaol Expenses to the Parish have averaged rather less than 20*l.* per Annum during the last five Years. The Expense of Prosecutions during that Period has been as high as 70*l.* in One Year; in the last Year the Sum paid by the Parish on this Account was only 20*l.*

Axbridge Gaol, Somersetshire, p. 1096.

The Borough Gaol is merely a Lock-up of Two Rooms, with a Court annexed to it. Prisoners have been sentenced to Confinement there for a Month, and frequently for less Periods. There is no fixed Gaol Allowance, but the Prisoners are maintained and the Gaol kept in order at the Expense of the Corporation. The Expense of removing Prisoners to the County Gaol is paid out of the County Rate, and that has been paid when Prisoners have been sent for Custody to Shepton Mallet, and brought back to Axbridge for Trial. That is thought to be more economical to the County than trying them at the County Sessions.

The Magistrates visit the Gaol regularly whenever any one is confined there, besides which the Bailiff in that Case visits it once or twice daily. During the Fair as many as Twenty Persons have been confined in those Two Rooms, sometimes for Two or Three Nights together. Females are never sent to the Gaol while Male Prisoners are there, but are kept in the Bailiff's Custody in a strong Room at one of the Inns. There is no other Prison for the Court of Record in case of its Revival.

Banbury Gaol, Oxfordshire, p. 13.

Authority to have a Gaol is expressly granted to the Corporation by the Charter of George 1st, for the Confinement and Custody of "Persons attached, committed, or adjudged to the Gaol of the Borough."

Borough." The Mayor is nominally the Keeper of the Gaol, but it is in fact under the Care of a Deputy appointed by him for that Purpose, and is subject to the general Superintendence of the Corporation. Some adjoining Rooms were taken in the Year 1817 for the Purpose of enlarging the Gaol, and Improvements were then made in the Arrangements of the Prison, the Expense of which was defrayed out of the Poor Rates; but it is still an insecure and insufficient Building, affording no Facilities for the Classification of the Prisoners, and scarcely admitting of the Separation of Males from Females. If the Business of the Court of Record should increase, and Prisoners for Debt should be confined in the Borough Prison, the Evil would become serious. Until a short Time ago there were no sufficient Means in the Gaol of imposing hard Labour; and great Inconvenience having been experienced on this Account, the Grand Jury at the Sessions recommended the Erection of a Treadmill, which has lately been put up. The Expense of the new Treadmill was borne by the Poor Rate, to which the occasional Repairs of the Gaol are also charged.

The Corporation and the Inhabitants in general are fully sensible of the Importance of providing a more secure and convenient Gaol. But the Corporate Funds are inadequate to meet the necessary Expense; and the inveterate Ill-will and Distrust with which the Corporation is regarded by the great Majority of the Inhabitants would render it inexpedient to attempt to take Money for this Purpose from the Poor Rate, to be expended under the Direction of the Corporation, even if such a Course were in other respects legal and practicable.

Barnstaple Gaol, Devon, p. 431.

The Gaol has been built within the last Ten Years; it was built jointly at the Expense of the Inhabitants and the Corporation. It is a substantial and a convenient Building.

Basingstoke Gaol, Hants, p. 1102.

The Gaol is a modern Building; it was erected Eighteen Years ago; it consists of Three Apartments, with a Yard attached to it. There are no Means of putting Prisoners to work or of Classification. The longest Period for which Persons are sentenced to Confinement is a Month.

Bath Gaol, Somerset, pp. 1117, 1118.

The City Gaol is situated in Bathwick; it is repaired at the Expense of the Corporation, and visited by the City Magistrates about once a Quarter, or oftener on extraordinary Occasions. About the Time of the Decision that the City of Bath was liable to the County Rate it was in contemplation to build a new and more commodious Gaol, but in consequence of the Expense of the Removal of Prisoners being then transferred to the County, this Scheme was abandoned; and all Prisoners whom the City Magistrates commit to hard Labour are now sent to the County House of Correction at Shepton Mallet near Wells, a Distance of Eighteen Miles.

About 200 Prisoners are sent there yearly, including Vagrants and those committed for Trial; a few are sent to the County Gaol at Ilchester, distant Thirty-three Miles. The average Charge to the County for Removals and Maintenance whilst remaining for further Examination is from 150*l.* to 160*l.* per annum. More than this Number are sent by the County Magistrates of Bath Forum District, a principal Part of whose Prisoners come from the immediate Neighbourhood of the City.

There are Three Watch-houses, one in the Market-place, another in Walcot, and another in Bathwick, in which disorderly Persons in the City are confined for the Night, and until taken before a Magistrate in the Morning. The City Gaol is chiefly filled by the Debtors of the Court of Requests; it is also used as a Lock-up for Felons under Examination.

There are now Thirteen Debtors in the Gaol, and Eight Misdemeanors. The Gaol Allowance is One Pound and a Half of Bread daily; this is provided by the Gaoler, who makes out a quarterly Account of it, called the Bread Bill. It averages annually about 80*l.* This Sum does not include Sixpence a Day, which by 52 Geo. 3. is allowed daily from the Parish Rates to Prisoners on Mesne Process from the Court of Record. There are very few of these at any Time. The Parish Allowance is received in Money by those who are entitled to it. The Prisoners from the Court of Requests are not entitled to the Gaol Allowance, but usually receive it in the following Manner:— On Application, the Gaoler furnishes to each imprisoned Debtor a blank Form of Certificate of his Inability to pay the Debt for which he is confined, in the Nature of a Recommendation for Gaol Allowance. This is addressed to the Mayor, and on its being signed by the Overseer and Clergyman of the Parish in which the Debtor had been residing previous to his Imprisonment, it is countersigned as a Matter of Course by the Mayor, and becomes the Gaoler's Authority for issuing to the certificated Debtor the Prison Allowance. The Corporation appoint a Chaplain and Surgeon to the Gaol, who receive each Fifty Guineas, paid by the Chamberlain.

The Gaoler receives a Salary of 120*l.* from the Bailiffs, whose Servant he is, and from whom he has his Appointment. The present Gaoler has held the Situation about Ten Years. He acts also as the Bailiff's Officer in the Execution of Processes from the Court of Record, for which he receives the usual Fees.

He is allowed to take the Profits of the Two Fairs, which amount in all to about 30*l.* more, consisting in Rents for Booths and Stalls, and Tolls on Sheep and Cattle sold in the Fair.

Bideford Gaol, Devon, p. 439.

A new Gaol was fitted up about two Years since under the same Roof with the Parish Workhouse; it contains Six Cells, with boarded Floors and glazed Windows. There is no Yard, but a narrow Passage under the Level of the Ground, in which the Prisoners are permitted to take Exercise. They

No. 13. Extracts, &c.

are occasionally employed in Work, picking Oakum, breaking Stones, &c. A separate Apartment is preparing for Debtors.

The County Gaol at Exeter is Forty-two Miles distant from Bideford.

Bodmin Gaol, Cornwall, p. 445.

The Gaol consists of a single Room, which is only used for Vagrants, disorderly Persons, and Offenders committed for Examination. After Conviction Offenders are committed to the County Gaol, a Building which has recently been much enlarged and improved, and which, under the Superintendence of the present Governor, has become remarkable for its excellent Arrangements, its Order, Regularity, and perfect Cleanliness.

Brading Lock-up-house, Hants, p. 681.

Within the Borough is a Lock-up House called the Prison, which is under the Care of the Constables, and which the Bailiffs occasionally inspect. The Fee belongs to the Corporation, and the Corporation provides for the Repairs and for the slight Accommodations necessary in a Place where Prisoners are never confined for many Hours.

Under this Head may also be mentioned the Stocks, which belong to the Corporation, apparently as Lords of the Leet.

Bradninch Gaol, Devon, p. 458.

The old Gaol was burnt down in the recent Fire which consumed the Guildhall and the neighbouring Buildings. Serious Charges were made with regard to the Manner in which the old Gaol had been conducted, and a culpable Neglect on the Part of the Magistrates was proved, in suffering a Want of Cleanliness and proper Conveniences to exist for a long Time. A Person who had been confined in the Gaol was examined before us, and stated that the Stench arising from the Nuisances which were not removed was almost insupportable. Before the building of the new Gaol this had been corrected. The present Gaol, which is just finished, was built at the Expense of the Borough by a Liberty Rate, the Corporation contributing 120*l.*, and the King, as Duke of Cornwall, 100*l.*, which latter Sum had been intended as a Subscription towards the Relief of the Sufferers by the Fire, but which was, with the Consent of the Officers of the Duchy and of the Committee for the Relief of the Persons suffering by the Fire, transferred to the Fund for building the Gaol. The present Gaol, which is under the Guildhall, consists of Two Divisions, one for Males and the other for Females. The former contains Two Cells, a Day-room, and a Yard; the latter, a Cell capable of holding Two Persons, and a Yard. The Floors are flagged, and the Windows are glazed. The Magistrates have no regular Periods for visiting the Gaol, but they inspect it occasionally. The Gaoler is one of the Serjeants at Mace.

Brecon Gaol, Brecknock, p. 181.

The Borough Gaol is a small Building, containing Three Rooms for Criminals and Two for Debtors. By Agreement with the County, the Borough Prisoners are committed to the County Gaol, the Borough contributing One Tenth Part of the Expenses of that Establishment. The Borough Gaol is used only as a Lock-up House during the Period before final Commitment.

As it has never happened that more than Two Debtors have been in Custody at the same Time under Process from the Borough Court, the Gaol, though small, affords sufficient Accommodation for them.

A Project has been set on foot for building a new Borough Gaol, large enough for both Criminals and Debtors. Such a Building, however, could not afford the same Means of Classification of Crime and Sex as the County Gaol; and as the latter is only Three Quarters of a Mile from the Town Hall of Brecon, and within the Borough, the present Arrangement appears to be better than that proposed.

As a Place of safe Custody for Debtors, the principal Objection to the present Building is the Want of a Yard. But this Objection is decisive; and if no Arrangement could be made for their Confinement in the County Gaol, a new Prison for Debtors only should be erected within the Borough.

The Gaol is under the Control of the Bailiff, but is visited by all the Borough Magistrates.

The Gaoler's Salary is paid out of the Corporate Fund.

Bridgwater Gaol, Somerset, p. 465.

The Borough Gaol is a convenient, though not a very strong Building. There are separate Divisions for the Male and Female Prisoners, with a Yard attached to each. The Debtors also are separated from the Criminals. The Gaol appears well kept and clean. The Borough Justices visit it occasionally, but not at stated Periods. No Prisoners were in Confinement at the Time of our visiting it. Offenders are rarely sentenced to be imprisoned there unless the Term of Imprisonment is short. When the County Sessions or the Assizes are held at Bridgwater the Gaol is much crowded. The Gaoler is appointed by the Corporation.

Bridport Gaol, Dorsetshire, p. 1143.

There is no Gaol in the Borough, but merely two Lock-up Rooms for the safe Custody of accused Persons until they are finally committed to the County Gaol or discharged.

Bristol Gaol, p. 1178 to 1189.

All the Expenses of the City Gaol, and of the Prisoners in it, are defrayed out of the Corporate Fund. The Sheriffs are the Superintendents of it, and, by an Act of the 56 Geo. 3, which will be more particularly mentioned hereafter, have the Appointment of the Governor and other Officers of the Gaol. They give a Deputation to the Governor to act for them in the Management of the Prison, and take Security from himself and Two Sureties for 500*l.*

The

Salaries, &c.

The Governor of the Gaol is paid a Salary of 500*l.* a Year by the Chamber; it was fixed at that Amount when the Fees on the Discharge of Felons were abolished. He is also allowed 5*l.* for every Convict removed to the Hulks or to the Port where they are to embark, which includes all the Expenses of their Removal. Out of his Salary he pays Two Turnkeys and a Night Watchman in the Prison. The Corporation pay the Chaplain of the Gaol 70*l.* a Year; Surgeon of the Gaol, 63*l.* a Year; Task-Master, 1*l.* a Week; Matron, 20*l.* a Year; and a Day Patrol, 18*s.* a Week. Since the Riots Two Assistants have been appointed, who receive about 100*l.* per Annum from the Chamber.

Maintenance of Prisoners.

Each Prisoner on the Felons Side is allowed One Pound and a Half of Bread a Day, and a Quart of Soup on Five Days in the Week. There is no Fund from which a regular Allowance can be made to Debtors; poor Debtors are supported either by their Friends or by their Parish; if their Parish cannot be discovered, and the Gaoler finds that they are really in want, he is empowered to give them the ordinary Gaol Allowance of the Felons. The Number of Debtors from the Superior Courts, the Court of the Tolsey, Court of Requests, and Court of Conscience, is very considerable; those from the Court of Conscience forming by far the largest Proportion of the whole Number confined, and, next to it, those from the Court of Requests. For some short Time before the Arrival of the Commissioners of Insolvent Debtors the Prison is occasionally so crowded, that the poorer Debtors have very insufficient Accommodation. By an Order of the Magistrates, the Governor is not permitted to allow any Debtor to reside in his House, which is in the Centre of the Building; but One Ward is appropriated to those who are willing to pay for better Accommodation.

The Infirmary Ward is also occasionally used for Debtors of a superior Class to those ordinarily within the Walls.

The principal Difference between the Two common Wards appears to be, that the Cells of the better Side have boarded Floors, that it is less crowded, and that its Inmates are entirely separated from the lowest Class of Debtors.

We understand that 3*s.* 6*d.* a Week is the Charge for being put in the better Ward. There are Two Day-rooms in each of the Debtors Wards. On the lower Side a Classification is made by the Prisoners themselves, by which One Room is appropriated exclusively to the better Sort on that Side. The Test is, whether the Imprisonment is such as to entitle the Party to the Benefit of the Insolvent Act. We visited the Prison just before the Arrival of the Commissioners, and that Room was exceedingly crowded. Two Debtors were sleeping in many of the Cells, and as there is not an extra Supply of Bedsteads, the Second Inmate of each had his Mattress placed on the Stone Floor, which was much complained of. At the same Time Cells in the other Ward were unoccupied.

Neither of the Debtors Wards are so clean and well kept as those of the Felons, as the same Discipline cannot be enforced amongst them. The Families of Debtors are permitted to visit them in their Rooms on Three Days in the Week; Strangers are never admitted within the Railings of the Yard.

The average Number of Persons discharged under the Insolvent Debtors Act at each of the Three Sittings of the Commissioners, which take place in Bristol every Year, is about Twenty. The Gaoler receives the Fees allowed by the general Act for taking up Insolvents: 1*s.* 6*d.* for taking him before the Court, and 3*s.* 6*d.* for a Copy of the Warrant of Commitment. There is a present Inconvenience felt from Prisoners being now sent to the Gaol who are under Sentences upon summary Convictions, the City Bridewell, which was burned down in the Riots of 1831, not being yet rebuilt. The Inconvenience is the greater as there are no adequate Means of providing Work for those who are sentenced to hard Labour, the only Treadmill in the Gaol being that which is employed for the Punishment of the Felons.

Number of Prisoners.

The Number of Prisoners in the Gaol on the 22d October (a Week after the Sessions) was—

	Males.	Females.
Debtors	69	3
On Charge	5	0
Convicts (for Transportation)	10	2
On Time	64	15
Deserters	2	0
Summary Convictions	15	0
	165	20

The annual Number of Convicts (for Transportation or the Hulks) varies from Thirty to Forty. The greatest Number of Prisoners in Custody at any one time was 242, immediately after the Riots of 1831; the least Number since the Appointment of the present Gaoler, who has held the Situation since 1795, was 121. Of the 242, 103 were for Examination. Most of the Felons who were released when the Prison was broken were retaken; many returned voluntarily.

Gaol Act of 1792.

The present Gaol was built in 1816–20, under the Provisions of 56 Geo. 3, c. 59. A prior Act for building and regulating a new Gaol in Bristol had been obtained in 1792, but its Powers were allowed to expire before any thing was done under it, in consequence of Disputes that arose in the City, occasioned by some of its Provisions.

We received no precise Information as to the Grounds or Extent of the Differences to which this Act gave rise; but if some of its Enactments are considered, and if it is recollected that the

the Corporation have always hitherto borne the Expense of the Gaol and Bridewell, and that the Imposition of a County Rate has been always a Subject of violent Contention between the Corporation and the Citizens, it is not difficult to understand why Opposition should have sprung up against putting the Act in execution.

It began by reciting, that the City Gaol was vested in and was the Property of the Corporation, and that they were willing that the Materials should be sold, and the Money applied to the Purposes of that Act, although by the 1 Will. & Mary, (passed 25th July 1689,) under which that old Gaol was built, the Money for building it was to be levied by a general Rate upon all the Citizens and Inhabitants of Bristol.

It also recited, that the Corporation (besides giving the old Gaol, with the Materials and Part of the Site of it, to be sold,) were willing to contribute 150*l.* a Year to the Purposes of the Act, and the remaining Sums wanted were to be levied by a general Rate upon all Lands and Buildings within the City. The Monies raised by these different Means were to be applied, among other Purposes, to the maintaining and repairing of the Gaol, and for discharging all Salaries and other Charges directed by this Act, or by any of the Acts thereby referred to respecting County Rates and Stocks.

The Sheriffs were to appoint the Gaoler and other Officers for the Gaol; the Common Council to appoint the Task Masters and other Officers of the House of Correction and Penitentiary; the Common Council to settle all their Salaries; to appoint Five Visitors from among themselves; to appoint a Chaplain; to appoint a Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, and to settle the Salary or Compensation to be paid to them.

The same Act also gave special Power to the Justices of the City to order the Expenses of Prosecutors and Witnesses, in all Cases of Felony, to be paid out of the Fund raised under it; and the Expenses of maintaining the Prisoners, of removing Convicts, &c. were to be defrayed in the same Manner. The Corporation was for ever discharged from all Expenses of the new Gaol, Penitentiary, and House of Correction, beyond the Sum of 150*l.* a Year; and the Monies raised were to be considered to all Purposes as a County Stock.

These are Points which the Corporation have been desirous of carrying from that Time to the present, and it is a remarkable Circumstance that after obtaining this Act they did not venture to take any Steps in the Execution of it. The old Gaol, universally allowed to be exceedingly defective in every respect, remained unaltered until 1816. The Act 32 Geo. 3. was then repealed by 56 Geo. 3, which recites, that the former Act had not been carried into execution, and which empowered certain Commissioners, being the Mayor and Aldermen, Five Members of the Common Council to be nominated by that Body, and Three Persons, not Members of the Common Council, appointed on behalf of the Inhabitants, to purchase Land and build a new Gaol; the building Funds, not exceeding 60,000*l.*, to be raised by a Rate upon all real Property in the City.

Gaol Act of 1816.

The new Gaol was completed in about Four Years. The Act provides that it is to be kept in repair, and all Charges attending it are to be borne by the Corporation, except in case of its being destroyed by the King's Enemies, popular Commotions, Fire, Inundation, or other inevitable Accident.

It was originally intended that the Visitors of the Gaol should be Members of the Common Council only; but this was objected to on the Part of the Citizens, and after the Bill was introduced an Addition was made to the Visitor's Clause, directing that Five Persons should be appointed, not of the Common Council, and that One of these Five should be a Clergyman, and One a Doctor of Medicine. Visitors were for several Years appointed in pursuance of this Enactment; but the Two Classes of Visitors acted without Communication with each other, and the Corporation Visitors made separate Minutes in a Visitors Book of their own, which was not accessible to the City Visitors. One of the City Visitors stated to us that he always found the Prisoners well taken care of and kindly treated.

Visitors.

On the passing of the General Gaol Act, 4 Geo. 4, c. 64, Visitors were appointed exclusively under it, as its Provisions were deemed to have superseded those contained in the Local Act. The present Visitors of the Gaol, therefore, are Two of the Magistrates, annually appointed for that Purpose by the Justices in Sessions. They visit the Gaol at various Intervals, and on these Occasions generally go through the Wards and see all the Prisoners. During the present Year the Gaol has been visited Twelve Times; in most Instances by One Magistrate only, as appeared by the Visitors Book, which we inspected.

The Prison is large, commodious, clean, and airy; it is situated on low Ground on the Bank of the River, but the Neighbourhood is said to be healthy. Nevertheless the Mortality is much greater in the new Prison than it used to be in the old one, which is spoken of as having been defective in every respect.

Keeper of the Bridewell, p. 1169.

The Keeper of the Bridewell, or House of Correction, is appointed annually by the Common Council. He receives a Salary of 80*l.* a Year from the Corporation, and is also entitled, under 55 Geo. 3, c. 50, to an annual Stipend of 130*l.* in lieu of the Fees that were abolished by that Act. This is directed by the Act to be paid out of the County Rate or Public Stock, and when there is no County Rate, &c. the Order for Payment is to be made upon the Overseers. There being at present no County Rate in Bristol, the Justices in Sessions, soon after the passing of the Act, made an Order for Payment of the Allowance on the Incorporated Body who have the Management of the Poor within the City of Bristol. On a Refusal to pay in conformity to the Order, the Treasurer

of

of that Corporation was indicted for disobeying it, but the Grand Jury threw out the Bill. The Corporation of the Poor afterwards filed a Bill of Discovery in Chancery against the Corporation of the City, alleging that the latter possessed Funds applicable to the Purpose.

The Bill was demurred to; and, after Argument and a Decision in the Vice Chancellor's Court, was carried by Appeal before the Lord Chancellor Eldon. It was heard before Lord Eldon shortly before he went out of Office, and his Lordship afterwards stated that he was ready to give Judgment in the Case, with the Consent of the Parties.

The Corporation of the Poor did not press for Judgment, and the Matter has remained undecided to the present Day. The Part of the Keeper's Salary which was the Subject of this Dispute has been advanced to him nearly to its full Extent from Time to Time by the Civic Corporation in the way of Loan, on his Promissory Note, without Interest. The Corporation also pay him 15*l.* a Year for a Turnkey and Taskmaster. At present the Bridewell Prisoners are confined in the Gaol, until the Bridewell, which was destroyed in the Riots, shall be rebuilt.

The Borough Gaol, which, though a capacious Building, is little used, is under the Superintendence of the Bailiff. The Corporation appoints a Gaoler. Buckingham Gaol, Bucks, p. 29.

There is a Borough Gaol for the Confinement of Debtors, consisting of Nine Rooms and a Yard. It is supported by the Corporation, and the Bailiffs appoint the Gaoler, who is in Practice the Chief Constable of the Police Force. Cardiff Gaol, Glamorganshire, p. 191.

The Gaol is also used as a Lock-up House.

Committals by the Magistrates are made to the County Gaol, and the Town is rateable to the County.

There is no Gaol within the Borough of Calne. Persons taken in execution under the Process of the Court of Requests are sent to the County Gaol at Salisbury, a Distance of Thirty-two Miles from Calne, and the Plaintiff pays 6*d.* a Mile for conveying them. When in the Gaol they are maintained by the County. For the last Three Months not more than Two Persons have been sent there. Calne, Wilts, p. 1233.

The principal Part of the present Gaol was built Three or Four Years ago. The Tower, forming one of the Gates of the City, constituted the old Gaol; the new Building adjoins that, and the Rooms in the Tower are still used, some of them as Cells for Female Prisoners, and others for Males when solitary Confinement is required, or when additional Room is wanted. The Building was clean, and is well supplied with Water; but the Yard is too small, and there is no Area for Female Prisoners. There is no Way of obviating this on account of the Buildings which surround the Gaol. It is to be regretted that the new Gaol was not built at the Skirts of the City, instead of being added to the old one, in one of the most densely peopled Parts of it. When there are not many Prisoners in Confinement, a Separation may be made by placing some in Rooms in the Tower; but there are scarcely any other Means of Classification. The only Employment given to the Prisoners is that of pumping Water into the Cisterns upon the Buildings. There are Two Rooms above the Gaoler's Apartments for Debtors. The Mayor usually visits the Gaol once or twice in the Week. Canterbury City Gaol Kent, pp. 704, 705.

Previously to the passing of the first Poor Act, 1 Geo. 2, Sess. 2, c. 20, the Corporation, as Trustees, were possessed of some Premises called the Poor Priests Hospital. Part of these Premises were used as a House of Correction. By this Act they are vested in the Guardians of the Poor, who are required to provide and maintain a good and sufficient House of Correction for the Use of the City. Two or Three dark Cells in the Workhouse are appropriated for this Purpose; they are very small and close, presenting very insufficient Means of Ventilation, and have no Area into which the Prisoners can be allowed to go. It would seem to have been very desirable that, when the new Gaol was built, some Arrangement should have been made by which the House of Correction might have been attached to that Building. House of Correction.

The Gaol (and House of Correction) was built by the Corporation, under the Authority of the last Act referred to. It is built upon Land belonging to the Corporation, and repaired "out of their Estates and Funds, and in no other Manner whatsoever." Carmarthen Gaol, p. 214.

The Borough Sheriffs have the keeping of the Gaol, and the Borough Justices have the same Power which County Justices have over Houses of Correction in other Counties.

The Gaoler's Salary is 30*l.* a Year; he is found in Coal, and lives in the Gaol free of Rent, Taxes, and Rates. The present Gaoler is a Burgess of the Corporation Party. His Predecessor was a Burgess of the opposite Colour, who was turned out when the present Party came into Power.

There are Four Rooms and a Yard for Debtors, but no Day-room. The average Number of Debtors in Confinement is Seven or Eight; but the present Gaoler has frequently known Twelve, and once Eighteen, who were charged in execution at the same Time.

There are Eight Cells for Criminals, with a Day-room and Yard for Prisoners of each Sex.

The Accommodation for Debtors is insufficient, and the Rooms appear to be negligently kept, which was probably owing in a great Degree to the Carelessness of the Debtors themselves. On the Criminal Side, a large Portion of the Women's Yard had been broken up by the Gaoler for a Garden,

No. 13. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

Garden, with which, he said, no Fault had been found by the Justices, or the Inhabitants of the Gaol.

A Surgeon is appointed under the Act. There is also a Chaplain, who is paid 10*l.* a Year.

Complaints were made of the insufficient Superintendence of the Magistrates. From whatever Cause, the Gaol (like all others in the Borough Towns of this Circuit) is much inferior in Accommodation and Management to the County Gaols.

Chichester City Gaol, Sussex, p. 724.

The City Gaol is quite insufficient. Debtors are confined in it as well as Criminal Prisoners. More Persons are often obliged to be confined in it than can be properly contained. There is a very small and close Yard for the Prisoners; as it is the only Area to the Gaoler's House, he uses it also for domestic Purposes. No Classification of Criminal Prisoners is possible.

The Mayor's Serjeant at Mace is Gaoler, and receives from the City Rate 15*l.* per Annum as Gaoler, and also 5*l.* in lieu of some Gaol Fees abolished by Act of Parliament. The Mayor's Chaplain officiates as Chaplain to the Gaol, but receives nothing from the City Rate. The Gaoler's Wife acts as Matron, but receives no Salary.

All Persons sentenced to hard Labour are sent to the County Gaol, as there are no Means of putting them to Labour in the City Gaol. When it has been thought advisable by the Justices to separate from other Prisoners Persons apprehended before final Committal for Trial, the latter have hitherto been given in charge to Constables, who have usually taken them to Public Houses in consequence of the Gaol being quite insufficient to allow of any Separation; an Agreement has therefore been made between the County and City Magistrates, that the County and City shall each contribute 10*l.* a Year for the Rent of a House to serve as a Place of Confinement in such Cases. The County Justices are to have the Use of it for the same Purpose, instead of being compelled to send Persons, before final Committal, to Petworth.

There is a Lock-up House under the Council Chamber, which is used for temporary Purposes.

Chipping Norton, Oxford, p. 35.

There is no Gaol in the Borough; but a Lock-up House under the Town Hall, used for the safe Custody of Prisoners before Commitment, belongs to the Corporation, and is repaired at their Expense.

Cowbridge Gaol, Glamorganshire, p. 223.

There is a Gaol, consisting of Four Cells, under the Town Hall. It is used as a Lock-up House merely.

Prisoners, on Committal, are sent to the County Gaol.

Dartmouth Gaol, Devon, p. 479.

The Gaol is a modern Building, but is far from being convenient. There is no sufficient Space for Exercise, and no Means of putting the Prisoners to work.

Deal Gaol, Kent, p. 937.

The Gaol consists of Two Rooms, which serve for both Day and Night Cells. There is no Court Yard, or Means of Employment for Prisoners. The Prison seems to be unfit for the Confinement of Persons for any Length of Time.

Devizes, Wilts, p. 1267.

There is now no Trace of the Existence of any Borough Gaol. The Want of it is felt chiefly whenever Persons are arrested or taken in execution under Process issuing out of the Court of Record, and may be looked on as a principal Cause of the Delay of Business in that Court. In those Cases, when they occur, the Parties are committed to the Custody of One of the Serjeants at Mace, who has in general no Place of Security at his Command, and who is not a Person of sufficient Substance to be responsible for an Escape. Persons, therefore, who are thus in execution, or under Arrest, appear to have been frequently at large. This was the Case with the Defendant in the Cause already referred to as having been tried in the Course of the present Year, until, upon Remonstrances being made, he was put into Confinement. The Means of doing this were only effected by the Accident of the Serjeant at Mace being also Keeper of the County Gaol, which is in the Town. No one has had sufficient Interest in the Question to apply for a Mandamus to the Corporation to provide a Gaol, which would seem to be the only Remedy for the Mischief. Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour at the Borough Sessions are sent to the County Bridewell, and are there maintained at the Expense of the County, a Charge which falls upon the County in consequence of the Inhabitants of the Borough contributing to the County Rates. Prisoners committed for Trial at the Borough Sessions are sent to the County Gaol within the Town, and the Expense of providing for the Prisoner in this Case falls also upon the County, as well as the Expenses of the Prosecutions at the Borough Sessions.

Dorchester Gaol, Dorsetshire, p. 1277.

There is a Debtors Gaol within the Borough called the Serjeants Ward; but it consists only of One Room, and it very rarely happens that any Debtor is confined there.

Dovor Gaol, Kent, p. 951.

The Gaol, though not built above Twelve or Thirteen Years ago, seems to be deficient in many important Particulars. The sleeping Cells and Passages are too small and close, and there are not sufficient Means of Ventilation; some of the Cells are intended for Six or Eight Persons, who are disposed of by putting One Bed over another. There are Two Day-rooms for Male Prisoners, leading out of small Yards, and a Day-room and sleeping Cells for Females. There is a Tread-wheel,

but there are no Means of converting it to any Use. There are usually from Twenty to Twenty-five Prisoners in Confinement, so that little or no Classification can be expected. The untried and convicted Prisoners are not always kept separate; the Gaoler uses his Discretion as to the Persons to be placed in each of the Rooms. There are Two small Cells used as a Bridewell for Vagrants or Prisoners in a dirty or unhealthy State; there is also a Room used as an Hospital for Invalids; there is a Room appropriated for Persons arrested by Writs out of the Court of Record; the Persons in execution from the Court of Requests are placed with the Felons. There seems to be little or no Means of enlarging the Gaol, as the public Thoroughfares nearly surround it. Complaint was made of the Prison Arrangements by a Person who was in the Year 1833 imprisoned in default of paying a Fine imposed on him for an Assault. He stated that he was obliged to sleep with a Person who had been sentenced to Death, in a small Cell, in which were Six other Felons, and that the Bed-clothing was in a disgusting and unhealthy State. He wrote to the Mayor while in Prison, but received no Answer, and he said that he was unable to get a personal Communication in the Prison with any of the Justices. He said that he had seen some of the Justices in the Prison once, but they were there, not for the Purpose of visiting, but consulting upon some Alterations, and he did not wish to interrupt them. The Gaoler denied that the Bed-clothing was unclean, but said that the rest of this Statement was true. He stated that there were no particular Times for the Justices to visit the Gaol, but that there was never a Month without some Justice calling, though there might probably be a Fortnight. He said that the Justices, on visiting, did not generally go into the Prisoners Wards, but merely called at his House to ask if he had any Complaints or Representations to make. It was also made a Matter of Complaint by the Person above mentioned, that he was not allowed to work at his Trade in the Gaol, although a convicted Felon was employed in the Gaoler's Kitchen to work for the latter's Family, for which he received some Remuneration. The Gaoler stated that he had Authority for employing any of the Prisoners who were sentenced to hard Labour, but that the Person complaining was not so sentenced, and that he wished to work, not for the Gaoler's, but for his own Benefit. There did not appear to be much Foundation for Complaint on the Part of this Individual on this Subject. I had no Means of learning from any of the Magistrates what Discretion is allowed to the Gaoler as to the Employment of Prisoners. No Clergyman ever attends the Gaol. The Gaoler has a Salary of 80*l.* There is an Assistant Gaoler, who has a Salary of 20*l.*

There are Two Prisons, which are used for the safe Custody of Offenders before their Commitment to the County Gaol, and for Debtors. The Prisons are in the Care of the Serjeants at Mace, under the Control of the Borough Magistrates. — Droitwich Prisons, Worcestershire, p. 48.

The Gaol consists of an outer Room, with Three small Cells, Two of which are boarded; they are ill ventilated, and unfit for the Reception of Prisoners for any Length of Time. There is no Yard. The Gaol is seldom used except in Cases of Imprisonment for Examination, or until Fines imposed by the Magistrates are paid. — East Looe Gaol. Cornwall, p. 535.

The Gaol, an old Building, but dry and secure, is under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates. The Gaoler is appointed by them at the Sessions, and has a Lodging Rent-free, and a Salary of 20*l.* a Year. — Evesham Gaol, Worcestershire, p. 55.

The Gaol was built in the Year 1818 under the Authority of a Local Act of Parliament, the 58 Geo. 3, c. 51, intituled "An Act for building a new Gaol and House of Correction for the City and County of the City of Exeter." The Cost of the Building was 10,000*l.*, besides the Materials and Site of the old Gaol. Visiting Justices are appointed under the Gaol Act, who visit it according to the Requisitions of that Statute. There are a Chaplain and Surgeon appointed, and, as far as the Building will permit, the Prisoners are classified according to the Directions of the Gaol Act. There is a Tread-wheel, with Machinery, for the Purpose of beating Hemp. — Exeter Gaol, Devon, p. 491.

The Gaol consists of Four Divisions, with Day-room and Yard to each for the Males, and Four Day-rooms with Two Yards for the Females. The Number of Cells is not sufficient, there being at the Time we visited the Gaol Six Prisoners sleeping in One Cell. Some of those Cells are built for the Purpose of accommodating several Prisoners, a Plan never pursued in the best Gaols.

The present Gaol was erected in 1831 by a Gaol and Marshalsea Rate, made in pursuance of the Stat. 4 Geo. 4, c. 64. The Cost was 404*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* It is a neat and convenient Building, containing on One Floor Apartments for the Gaoler, and Two Rooms for Prisoners, with glazed Windows and Fire-places. On the Floor below are Three Cells, with a Yard, and Two Cells with another Yard. The Cells are all well ventilated, boarded, roomy, and with glazed Windows. There is Ground at the Back of the Gaol upon which an Addition to the Building might be made. One of the Serjeants at Mace acts as Gaoler. There were only Two juvenile Delinquents in the Building when we visited it. The Gaol is very creditable to the Town of Falmouth. — Falmouth Gaol, Cornwall, p. 502.

The Gaol was built about Twenty Years ago. It affords no Means for Classification or Employment of the Prisoners. It consists of Two Cells for Male Prisoners, and Two sleeping Rooms in — Feversham Gaol, Kent, p. 973.

No. 13. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

the upper Part of the Gaoler's House for Females. When Persons are taken in execution under the Court of Requests Act, they are obliged to be placed in one of the Felons Cells. There were, at the Time I visited the Gaol, Two Persons in Confinement; one for a Term of Imprisonment, the other committed for Trial at the following Sessions. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are considered to be the Visiting Justices. The Gaoler has a Salary of 10*s.* a Week; the Chaplain has 10*l.* a Year. All the Expenses connected with the Gaol and Prisoners are now paid out of the Liberty Rate. The Expense of the Maintenance of Prisoners during the Year ending Michaelmas 1833 was 15*l.* 2*s.*

Folkestone Gaol, Kent, p. 983.

The Gaol, which is insecure, is kept up by the Lord of the Manor, who, as before stated, appoints the Gaoler.

However, it is only used for Custody previous to Trial, and for Debtors from the Court of Requests; other Debtors are sent to Dovor Castle, and Prisoners under Sentence to the County Prison.

The Revenues of the Corporation, which do not exceed 240*l.* a Year, are derived from the Fines above described, from the Interest of 600*l.* accumulated from the same Source, from some small Dues, and from certain Rates levied on the Inhabitants by virtue of the Cinque Port Charters, called the Chamberlain's Rate and the Ability Tax; the Chamberlain's Rate being imposed on Property, and the Ability Tax on Persons, for the Purposes of the Corporation and Freemen. The Ability Tax, which is only levied once a Year, in order to keep up Evidence of the prescriptive Right to levy it, is 1*s.* 6*d.* a Head, and some Complaints are made at its being the same for all, however differing in Ability.

Water Bailiff.

The Water Bailiff is appointed during Pleasure by the Lord of the Manor and Barony of Folkestone.

His Duties are to impannel and summon Juries, to act as Crier of the Courts, and keep the Gaol.

The Office is at present filled by the Serjeant at Mace.

As Water Bailiff he has a Salary of 5*l.*, and a House as Gaoler, both from the Lord of the Manor.

Fordwich Gaol, Kent, p. 991.

There is a small Cell under the Guildhall, which has been used, once or twice within the last few Years, for temporary Purposes as a Prison. It is quite unfit in every respect for the Confinement of any one. The Gaoler stated that a Person had been confined in it for Three or Four Days, on Committal by the Justices, for wishing to come upon the Parish. I was unable to ascertain what the Offence really was. The Justices, however, have entered into a Composition with the County, under the recent Act, for the Committal and Maintenance of their Prisoners in the County Gaol.

Gloucester Gaol, p. 64.

There is One Gaol belonging to the City Authorities, an old Structure, inadequate to its Purposes, especially that of Classification of Prisoners. It is under the Superintendence of Two or Three Visiting Magistrates, who are appointed every Michaelmas. There is a House of Correction attached to it.

Godalming, Surrey, p. 737.

There is no Gaol in the Town; the Lock-up House is under the Superintendence of the Commissioners of Police.

Hastings Gaol, Sussex, p. 1000.

There is One Gaol or Prison for Hastings and its Liberties, under the Care of a Keeper appointed by the Mayor and Jurats at their Quarter Sessions of the Peace. The Gaoler's Salary is paid out of the general Rate levied in the Town and Port and Liberties, in the Nature of a County Rate.

The Prison is under the Control of the Mayor and Jurats, and is visited by them.

A Surgeon is appointed to attend the Prisoners.

A Person is also appointed to read a Sermon to the Prisoners every Sunday, and they are occasionally visited by the Rector and his Curate.

The Gaol of the Town presents a striking Instance of the Inconvenience of retaining such an Establishment in a Jurisdiction of small Extent. The Building, which has been recently added to, is probably as large as the Inhabitants of so small a Town could afford to erect; but there is no Court-yard in which the Prisoners can take Exercise; the only Space for that Purpose is the upper Room of the Building. There are no Means of Employment for the Prisoners, and should they be numerous, Classification would be impossible.

The Expenses of the Gaol, and of the Prosecution and Support of Prisoners, is defrayed by a Rate in the Nature of a County Rate, collected with the Poor Rate by the Overseers, and by them placed in the Hands of a Treasurer, who accounts for the Receipt and Expenditure of the same. This Treasurer is appointed by the Town Magistrates at Quarter Sessions, and has a Salary of 3*l.* 3*s.* a Year.

Haverfordwest Gaol, Pembroke, p. 239.

An Act was passed in 1822, "for converting the Gaol and House of Correction of the County of Pembroke into a Gaol for the said County, and for the Town and County of the Town of Haverfordwest; and for applying the Gaol of the said Town and County of Haverfordwest to the Purposes of a Lunatic Asylum." The Gaol for the County of Pembroke is situated in the Town of

of Haverfordwest. The Act provides that the Debtors and other Prisoners of the Town shall be committed to and kept in the Gaol for the County of Pembroke by the Warrant of the Town Magistrates, that they shall be maintained there at the Costs and Charges of the Town, and that the Town Sheriff shall be answerable for their safe Custody.

The Town Magistrates are empowered to visit and inspect, but the Control and Management of the Gaol, and the Appointment of Officers and Servants, remains with the County Magistrates, the Gaoler giving Security to both Sheriffs for the safe Keeping of their respective Prisoners.

Great Advantage has been derived from this Arrangement, both in regard to Economy and the Classification and Management of the Prisoners.

Helston Gaol, Cornwall, p. 513.

The Gaol consists of a single Room under the same Roof as the Workhouse, without any Yard attached to it. The Corporation state their Intention of building a new Gaol as soon as a proper Site can be obtained.

Henley-upon-Thames, Oxfordshire, p. 73.

There are no Gaols in the Town, the only Place of Confinement being a small Dungeon under the Town Hall, used merely for Purposes of temporary Restraint or Security.

Hereford Gaol, p. 260.

The Mayor is the official Governor of the Gaol; but the Superintendence is exercised, in fact, by the Body of Magistrates.

Under a Contract with the County Magistrates, Offenders are chiefly committed to the County Gaol.

There are Three Rooms in the City Gaol for Male Prisoners, and Three for Female. There is also a Yard for each Class.

There are, however, no Means of separating those who are committed for Trial from those who have been convicted, nor of any Classification but that of Sex.

As these Advantages may be obtained in the County Gaol, which is situate within the City, and is sufficiently large, no Advantage seems to be derivable from a separate City Gaol for the Confinement of Prisoners.

There is but One Day-room for Debtors, which they occupy in common with the Gaoler's Family. The Room is too small, and has no Yard.

The Gaol, upon which large Sums of Money have been spent, is in fact insufficient for the Wants of the City.

Hythe Gaol, Kent, p. 1008.

The Gaol, which is small, is superintended by the Mayor and Jurats. The Expenses of keeping the Prisoners are defrayed out of a Gaol Rate.

Gaoler.

The Gaoler is appointed during Pleasure by the Mayor and Jurats. He has a Salary of 5*l.*, with a House and Firing.

Kidwelly Gaol, Carmarthen, p. 275.

There is a Gaol, consisting of Five Rooms and a Yard, which is considered sufficient for the Purposes of the Borough.

The Mayor has the Superintendence of the Gaol, and appoints the Gaoler, who is in Practice one of the Serjeants at Mace.

The Gaoler has no Salary, but resides within the Gaol, Rent and Taxes free.

Laughame Gaol, Carmarthenshire, p. 288.

The Gaol is a small Lock-up House belonging to the Corporation, and is sufficient for the Necessities of the Place.

Launceston Gaol, Cornwall, p. 519.

The Gaol of the Borough is quite unfit for the Abode o any Description of Persons; it consists of One Room and Two Cells, and an upper Room exclusively appropriated for the Use of Debtors; there is no Yard attached to it, nor any Means of Exercise for the Prisoners. It was stated by the Town Clerk that the Inhabitants would not pursue their Debtors in the Civil Court, lest they should cause them to be confined in the Gaol, and that it was impossible to give an adequate Supply of Air to the Prisoners, or to attempt to give Labour or Instruction to the Persons confined.

Leominster Gaol, Herefordshire, p. 296.

There is a Gaol belonging to the Borough, The Gaoler, who is a Bellman, Crier of the Court, and otherwise employed by the Corporation, is appointed by them. He lives in the Gaol free of Expense, has a Salary of 6*l.* a Year, and other occasional Emoluments.

The Gaol contains Two Rooms on the Criminal, and one on the Debtors Side.

Prisoners charged with Felony are now always committed to the County Gaol, and the Two Rooms on the Criminal Side are appropriated to Persons charged with or convicted of Misdemeanors. These Rooms are sufficient for the Purpose, and in proper Condition. The Debtors Room, in which there is a Privy, is in so bad a Condition, that one of the Borough Magistrates declared a Week's Confinement there to be as bad as Confinement for a Year in any other Gaol.

The Gaol is under the Superintendence of the Bailiff and Magistrates.

Liskeard Gaol, Cornwall, p. 527.

The Gaol consists of only a single Room, built in a very objectionable Situation over a Pool of offensive Water. As Persons remain there seldom more than Two or Three Days, this Circumstance ceases to be very material. There is no Yard attached to the Room, and the Gaoler has occasionally taken the Prisoners out for the Purpose of taking their Meals.

Llandovery Gaol, Carmarthen, p. 302.

It was also granted to the Bailiff and Burgesses that they might build a Gaol and Guildhall (vulgarly there called Bote-hall), for the keeping of Prisoners and holding the Hundred Court when necessary.

Lostwithel Gaol, Cornwall, p. 546.

The Gaol is a single Room under the Town Hall, without an adequate Supply of Light or Air, and quite unfit for the Confinement of Prisoners. The Magistrates use it only as a Place for the temporary Custody of Offenders; but it is much to be regretted that any Human Being, even for a short Period, should be placed in it.

Lydd Gaol, Kent, p. 1014.

The Gaol is only used as a Lock-up House previous to Committal.

Lyme Regis Gaol, Dorset, p. 1310.

There is a Gaol under the Town Hall, which was probably made use of in former Times; it is now used only as a Lock-up House. The Mayor's Constable is the Keeper of it.

Felons Goods.

It may here be mentioned that the Corporation are entitled to the Goods of all Felons who are convicted for Crimes committed within their Jurisdiction. The Profits arising from this Source are never likely to be considerable. In 1769 they received 105*l.* as a Composition for a Felon's Goods which were seized by reason of a Felony committed within the Borough, and which upon Payment of the above Sum were restored. This is the only Entry of the Kind that I have met with in the Books.

Lymington, Hants, p. 746.

There is no Gaol; the only Place of Confinement within the Town is a small Cell used for placing disorderly Persons in during the Night, and which is never used but for very temporary Purposes.

Maidstone Borough, Kent, pp. 765, 766.

There is at present no Gaol for the Borough. An Agreement has been made between the Justices for the County and for the Borough, under which the latter commit all their Prisoners to the County Gaol. They pay One Shilling a Day for the Maintenance of each of their Prisoners confined there, which Expense is defrayed out of the Borough Rate. This Agreement has existed for Seven or Eight Years, before which Time there was a Place of Confinement within the Borough. The Escape of a Prisoner from the old Borough Gaol was the Cause of this Arrangement.

Marazion Gaol, Cornwall, p 552.

There is a small Room used as a Gaol, but Offenders are only committed to it until they can be removed to Bodmin.

Monmouth, p. 325.

For many Years past the Borough Prisoners have been confined in the County Gaol. There was formerly a Borough Gaol, consisting of Two Rooms, one over the other, with a Gaoler's Lodging below. This Gaol was claimed by the Corporation as belonging to them, but it had for many Years been repaired and the Prisoners maintained out of the Poor Rate for the Parish of Monmouth, until the Year 1807; in that Year, the Gaol being in a dilapidated Condition and unfit for the Custody of Prisoners, and the Churchyard of the Parish being too small, it was resolved at a Parish Meeting that the Gaol should be sold. It was accordingly sold for 350*l.*, the Parish and the Corporation joining in the Conveyance. The Proceeds of the Sale, and a further Sum of 345*l.* of the Parish Money, were invested in the Purchase of Houses and Land adjoining the Churchyard. The Conveyance was made to the Churchwardens, a Part of the Land was thrown into the Churchyard, and the rest was let by the Churchwardens at a Rent of 26*l.* a Year.

An Agreement was made with the County Magistrates by the Corporation and the Parishioners that the Borough Prisoners should be lodged in the County Gaol for 16*l.* a Year, which Sum was to be paid out of the Rent of the Houses and Lands so purchased.

In 1815 a Portion of this Property, consisting of a House and Garden Ground, yielding 20*l.* a Year, was let by the Parishioners on a long Lease for the Purposes of a National School, at a reserved Rent of 1*l.* per Annum.

The Rent applicable to the Payment for the Use of the County Gaol was thus reduced to 6*l.* a Year. It was resolved, however, at a Meeting of the Parishioners, that the whole 16*l.* a Year should be raised by an Addition to the Church Rate. In the Year 1820 the Payment towards the County Gaol was discontinued, and ceased to be paid by the Churchwardens for several Years. In consequence of Steps taken by the County Magistrates it was paid for Three Years by the Corporation out of their Funds, since which Time it has been again discontinued.

Neath Gaol, Glamorgan, p. 336.

There is a Gaol belonging to the Corporation, consisting of Four Rooms, which they allow to be used by the County Magistrates as a Lock-up House.

The Building is not suitable for its Object, the Rooms being exposed to View from the Street, and admitting of free Communication with the Bystanders.

Newbury Gaol, Berks, p. 91.

The Borough Gaol, which is small and insecure, is used only for the safe Custody of Prisoners before Commitment, and for the Confinement of Persons sentenced by the Borough Magistrates upon summary Convictions to short Periods of Imprisonment. The Gaoler is paid a Salary of 10*l.* a Year by the Corporation, and the Building is under the Superintendence of the Three Borough Magistrates.

The

The Mayor is empowered by the Charter to commit Offenders to the County Gaol. There is a Gaol belonging to the Borough, which is only used as a Lock-up House until Prisoners are finally committed. Newport Gaol, Monmouth, p. 345.

The Gaol, which is maintained out of the Poor Rate, is under the Control of the Mayor, and is kept by the Bailiffs. It is very inconvenient even for the Purpose of a Lock-up House. There is but One Bed in the Gaol; and when more than One Prisoner is confined, the rest are put upon Straw.

The present Gaol was built at the joint Expense of the Isle of Wight and of the Borough. A County Rate is levied for the whole Island, to which the Inhabitants of the Borough, including the Corporation, contribute. There is no Borough Rate; the Gaol is supported by this Rate. It is visited by both Bodies of Magistrates, but principally by those of the Corporation. It contains the Means of separating convicted and untried Prisoners, Debtors and Criminals, Males and Females, but of very little further Separation. The Accommodations are tolerably good, and it appears to be carefully attended to. The Gaoler receives 100*l.* per Annum; he pays out of this 60*l.* to his Turnkeys. There is no Matron. The Chaplain receives 50*l.* per Annum, the Surgeon 25*l.* Both are appointed by the Two Bodies of Magistrates jointly. Newport Gaol, Isle of Wight, p. 784.

There is also a Lock-up House, for temporary Purposes, on the Soil of the Corporation.

The Gaol is superintended by the Bailiff, who appoints the Gaoler. It is sufficient for the very limited Purpose for which it is required. New Radnor Gaol, p. 360.

The Gaol is an old Building; it is in a most wretched State; it contains Two Rooms; the lower Room is used as a Store for Fuel; it is destitute of all proper Conveniences, and there is no Yard or Place for Exercise. The longest Period of Imprisonment imposed by Sentence of the Quarter Sessions upon Offenders has been Three Months. Okehampton Gaol, Devon, p. 558.

There is only One Gaol for the City. It is visited in rotation by the City Magistrates, who appoint the Governor, Matron, Turnkey, Surgeon, and Chaplain. Oxford Gaol, p. 103.

A Gaol is granted by the Charter; but there is now only a Lock-up House, which is let to and used by the County Magistrates. Pembroke Gaol, p. 369.

The Gaol at Penryn is very small; it consists of two small Apartments on the Staircase of the Town Hall; it has no adequate Supply of Light or Air. No Human Being ought to be confined in such a Place. Penryn Gaol, Cornwall, p. 564.

The present Gaol was built about Ten Years since, and the Expense was defrayed by a Rate, the Corporation contributing 100*l.* It consists of Two Divisions, having a Yard and Four Cells attached to each. There is a small Tread-wheel in one of the Yards. It is sufficient in general for the Number of Offenders required to be confined, but there is no Power of classifying them properly. Penzance Gaol, Cornwall, p. 573.

The Town Serjeant is the general Servant of the Corporation; he attends all the Meetings, and serves all the Summonses. He is also Constable. He has a Salary as Serjeant of 3*l.*, and 6*s.* 8*d.* for each Coroner's Jury which he summons. He is also Gaoler. This Situation is little more than nominal, as Persons are almost always committed to the House of Correction at Lewes. Persons have occasionally been confined in the Gaol at Pevensey for Two or Three Weeks at a Time, but this has not happened within the last Two Years. The Gaoler has a Salary of 5*l.* paid out of the Liberty Rate. Functions of Town Serjeant and Gaoler of Pevensey, Sussex, p. 1018.

The Borough Gaol, though erected not more than Thirty Years ago, is a building ill calculated for the Purpose to which it is devoted. It consists of a lofty Tower of Five Stories, with a Room on each Floor. An Improvement was lately made by adding Three Rooms and Two Cells to the Building. The Felons are divided from the Debtors, and the Men from the Women, and there are separate Yards for the Men and Women. There is no sufficient Accommodation for putting the Prisoners to work, though about Two Years since they were occasionally employed in picking Oakum. Since that Time, however, no Work has been done, unless it has been by the Debtors for their own Benefit. The Corporation maintain the Prisoners. Plymouth Gaol, Devon, p. 584.

There is a Surgeon to the Gaol, but no Chaplain. The Surgeon formerly received no fixed Salary; he has now 25*l.* per Annum; he has also 10*s.* 6*d.* for a Certificate of the Health of every Convict transported. He attends the Debtors as well as the Criminals. He is appointed by the Mayor.

The State of the Gaol has been the Subject of much Consideration with the Corporation, and has attracted the Attention of the Grand Jury of the Borough. With a view of providing a Fund for the Purpose of building a new Prison, the Corporation, as already stated, imposed a Fine upon the Persons who had the Freedom of the Borough presented to them, in the Manner before described. From this Source a Sum of 3,300*l.* was obtained, and vested in the Hands of Trustees. There were, however, Two Objects to which this Fund was applicable, viz. the building of a new Guildhall as well

No. 13. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

well as of a new Gaol: the estimated Expense of the former was 4,000*l.*, of the latter 5,000*l.*, exclusive of the Land which the Corporation proposed to grant gratuitously. As the Sum raised for building amounted only to 3,300*l.*, the Corporation proposed to the Trustees of the Fund to postpone the Erection of a new Guildhall, and to apply the whole Amount in building a new Prison; but the Freemen, who had contributed the Money, objecting to this Application of it, the Trustees declined giving their Consent, and no Steps have been taken towards effecting this very desirable Object.

Plympton Earle Gaol, Devon, p. 600.

The Borough Gaol is very insufficient. It consists of Two small Rooms under the Guildhall, with a small Yard. The Justices of the Borough have by Charter the Power of committing to the County Gaol at Exeter, but transient Offenders are confined in the Borough Gaol. The Magistrates are, however, unwilling to commit to it.

Poole Gaol, Dorsetshire, p. 1323.

The Gaol is of good Size, compared with the Extent of the local Jurisdiction. It consists of Six Sleeping-rooms, and of One Day-room appropriated to Debtors. There is a House of Corrrection attached to the Gaol consisting of a single Room, and there is also a Treadmill. The Sheriff has the Charge of the Gaol, but the Gaoler is appointed by the Justices in Sessions. He is paid a Salary of 30*l.* a Year out of the County Rate, and he receives also 40*s.* as Keeper of the House of Correction. The Gaol is kept in repair out of the County Rate.

Borough Gaol and Town Hall, Portsmouth, Hants, p. 815.

The Borough Gaol is Part of the same Building with the Town Hall, at which the Courts are now held, and where the Elections of Officers and other Corporate Business is done. The old Gaol was, many Years ago, presented as insufficient by the Grand Jury. An Act was obtained for building a new Gaol. The Collector was to account to any Two of the Borough Justices. The Gaol was built accordingly, and the old Town Hall was left standing; the latter is used for public Meetings in the Town and other general Purposes. A Complaint was afterwards made that the Money was partially collected, that the Accounts were irregularly audited, and that the Rates were applied to Purposes not within the Act, as, for instance, to building the Town Hall and to maintaining the Prisoners. A Committee of the Inhabitants was formed, and finally the Corporation paid 1,000*l.* from the Corporation Funds by way of Gift or Compromise. The Gaol is now maintained under the Borough Rate before mentioned. It has been enlarged in consequence of the general Gaol Act. The Inhabitants complain of having been brought within this Statute. They consider that this is to be attributed to the Largeness of the Number of Prisoners usually in Confinement, which is said to be in great Part owing to the Circumstance, that Smugglers captured at great Distances are brought to this Port. The Visiting Magistrates are appointed by the Borough Justices at Sessions from among themselves. The Mayor is the Gaoler by the Charter of Charles I. The Gaol is not yet quite so complete as the Gaol Act requires, but it is convenient and cleanly, and has the Means of carrying the Separation of the Classes of Prisoners to a great Extent. The Salaries of the Officers of the Prison, which are fixed by the Magistrates, are—

Gaoler	-	-	-	£200	Matron	-	-	-	£25	—
Turnkey	-	-	-	100	Surgeon	-	-	-	31	10

Strong Objections are made to a Custom which prevails here of confining Prisoners on Criminal Convictions together with Soldiers condemned for Breaches of Military Discipline.

Queenborough Gaol, Kent, p. 835.

There is a small Gaol under the Guildhall, consisting of Two Rooms, each about Twelve Feet square. Persons are very rarely confined in it. A Composition has been made by the Corporation with the Magistrates of the County, by which they are enabled to commit to the County Gaol, on paying a certain Sum for the Maintenance of the Persons committed.

Reading Gaol, Berks, p. 115.

There is a Gaol, under the Superintendence of the Mayor and Borough Magistrates. The Building being small and confined, an Arrangement has been made with the Authorities of the County Gaol, in consequence of which the Borough Gaol is now only used for Debtors, and for the safe Custody of Offenders previously to Commitment. The Debtors Ward is small and gloomy, and inadequate for its Purpose, although there are seldom more than Two Prisoners at a Time.

Rochester Gaol, Kent, p. 860.

The Gaol stands upon Land which is held on Lease by the Corporation. It is occasionally visited by the Borough Magistrates. It contains the very few Prisoners occasionally confined under the Process of the Court of Portmote, those confined under the Process of the Court of Requests, and the Prisoners confined, either before or after Trial, under the Authority of the Court of Quarter Sessions. The Means of separating the different Classes of Prisoners are by no means perfect; and the Arrangements for inflicting hard Labour are so defective, that, when this makes a Part of the Sentence, it is carried into effect only by requiring the Convict to sweep the Gaol Yard.

The Gaol was built in 1809 at the Expense of the Corporation. Money was raised by them on Annuity at 8½ per Cent. on Two Lives, and some Leases for Ninety-nine Years were granted on a Premium at a nominal Rent. It cost from 5,000*l.* to 6,000*l.* The Expenses of the Gaol are now defrayed from the City Rate, excepting the Salary of the Gaoler, who is paid 56*l.* annually by the Corporation for his Services as Gaoler and Serjeant at Mace. There is no regular Chaplain

or

or Matron; the Gaoler's Wife, however, attends, receiving no Salary. The Surgeon who is employed is a Member of the Corporation; he has no fixed Salary.

The Gaol, which is exceedingly small, is superintended by the Bailiff and Justices.

Romney Marsh Gaol, Kent, p. 1028.

The Gaol at Romsey is a modern Building; it contains Two Apartments with Fire-places; the Rooms are boarded, and in One of them the Window is glazed: a Yard is attached to the Gaol. Formerly Prisoners were confined here for considerable Periods, but for the last Seven Years no Person has been confined in the Borough Gaol for more than a Week. Prisoners are committed to the County Gaol.

Romsey Gaol, Hants, p. 1333.

The Gaol consists of Two large Rooms, one above the other. It affords none of the Requisites of a Prison beyond that of Confinement. As the Magistrates have the Means of sending Prisoners to the County Prison on paying the usual Composition, Prisoners are not often confined in the Town Gaol.

Rye Gaol, Sussex, pp. 1032, 1036.

The Gaoler is appointed by the Justices. His Office is considered to be during Pleasure.

Appointment of Gaoler.

There used to be a City Gaol under the old Council House; and the Act of the 28th Geo. 3, which is mentioned in the Title of the 40th Geo. 3, was passed for the Purpose of enabling the Corporation, among other Things, to build a new Gaol. This Part of the Act being repealed, no Gaol has been erected within the City; but since the 40th Geo. 3, the County Gaol at Fisherton has been for all Purposes considered as a City Gaol, and all Offenders committed or sentenced by the City Authorities are to be sent to the County Gaol as long as one exists in Fisherton Anger. Prisoners sent there are supported out of the City Rate, a Rate which is made by the Justices at Sessions, and assessed upon the different Parishes of the City in the same Manner as the County Rate, and charged in the same Way with these Expenses and the Expenses of Prosecutions. The Confinement at Fisherton is very defective as a Punishment for those condemned to hard Labour, there being no House of Correction there, nor any effectual Means of carrying such a Sentence into execution.

Salisbury Gaol, Wilts, p. 1343.

The Justices, each Sessions, appoint Two of their own Number to be Visiting Justices of Fisherton Gaol; and Salaries are paid by the City to the Gaoler, the Surgeon, and the Matron.

The Gaol consists of a Room under the Town Hall, with Three Cells adjoining to it. The Floors are of Clay, and the Cells are without Apertures of any Kind for the Admission of Air or Light. The Gaol is in every Way unfitted for the Confinement of Prisoners, being damp, without Ventilation, and without any Means of affording either Labour or Exercise. The Consequence has been, that in order to preserve the Health of the Prisoners confined in it, they have been irregularly permitted to walk out in the neighbouring Churchyard, and occasionally have been conducted by the Gaoler or Constable to the Public House for the Purpose of Refreshment. In this Receptacle, unfit for the Custody of the worst Offenders, a Man convicted of an Assault was, a few Years since, confined for Six Weeks. Rather than suffer themselves to be instrumental in causing Persons to be committed to this Gaol, it was stated to us that the Inhabitants of Saltash preferred suffering Depredations upon their Property to pass unpunished. It did not appear that at the Period when the Revenues of the Borough were very considerable any Proposition had been made, either to put this Gaol into a fit State, or to build a new one.

Saltash Gaol, Cornwall, p. 607.

The present Gaol was built in 1829–30, under the Provisions of an Act 10 Geo. 4, c. 105. Before the passing of this Act the Bailiff had the Keeping and Maintenance of the Gaol out of the Rents of certain Lands, and the Emoluments of Office. The Act vests the Office of Bailiff, the Gaol and the Lands previously belonging to the Bailiff, in the Mayor and Jurats, who are annually to appoint some Jurat, Common Councilman, or Freeman, being a resident Householder, Bailiff. The Bailiff is not to be Gaoler. The Act then enacts that the Gaol shall in future be maintained and kept out of the Liberty Rate, and authorizes the Mayor and Jurats to purchase Land and to build a new Gaol, with certain specified Accommodations. The Bailiff's Lands and the old Gaol were to be sold, and the Proceeds to be applied in Payment of the Expenses of the Act, and towards the building of the Gaol. There is Power to charge a further Sum of 2,000*l.* upon the Liberty Rate; and, if this should not be sufficient, the Deficiency was to be paid out of the surplus Bridge Tolls, mentioned in Sect. 58, by an annual Charge not exceeding One Third of the annual Surplus. There is Power given to borrow Money upon Mortgage of this Proportion of the surplus Toll. These Provisions of the Act have been complied with, and 1,675*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* was borrowed upon Mortgage of the Tolls, none of which has been paid off. When this Money was borrowed, it was understood that 100*l.* should be paid off every Year. The Surplus, after paying the Interest, has been applied to paying off Trades-people's Bills incurred in the building and fitting up of the Gaol, who were asked to give Time, in order that the Liberty might not have to borrow a larger Sum of Money. The Balance in hand at present is very trifling, but it was expected that in future Years a substantial Sum would be set aside for paying off this Debt. The full Sum of 2,000*l.* was borrowed upon Mortgage of the Liberty Rate. The Mayor and Jurats are to appoint the Gaoler and other Officers, whose Salaries are to be paid out of the public Funds of the Town.

Sandwich Gaol, Kent, pp. 1045, 1052.

No. 13. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

The new Gaol has been built in accordance with the Directions of the Act, and the Arrangements of it are exceedingly good. It is clean and airy, and possesses ample Means of Classification of Prisoners. The Manner of doing this and of employing the Prisoners seem very judicious. There is a Tread-wheel, but the Power is not turned to any Use, the Number of Prisoners not being sufficient for this Purpose. The Number of Prisoners in the Gaol at different Times during the Course of the Year 1833 was 109.

Appointment of Gaoler.

The Gaoler is appointed by the Mayor and Jurats, under the Provisions of the Act mentioned in Sect. 51.

Seaford Gaol, Kent, p. 1060.

A small Gaol, superintended by the Bailiff and Jurats, is now only used for safe Custody previous to Commitment to the County Gaol.

Serjeant at Mace and Gaoler.

The Serjeant at Mace is also appointed annually by the Bailiff. He attends Corporate Meetings with the Mace, summons Juries, and serves Process, for which he has 14*s.* a Year, and a Hat and Cloak. He also discharges the Duties of Gaoler, for which he makes an occasional Charge, being rarely called on to act in that Capacity.

Shaftesbury Gaol, Dorsetshire, p. 1354.

The Court of Record had a Gaol belonging to it, but it was one of very small Dimensions. It was used as a Lock-up House for some Years after the Court ceased to be resorted to, but has been wholly abandoned since another Building has been constructed to answer the same Purpose.

Southampton Gaols, Hants, p. 886.

There are Four Places of Confinement, under the Superintendence of the Magistrates of the Corporation,—a Lock-up House, a Prison for Debtors, a House of Correction, and a Fourth Prison.

The Lock-up House is on the Soil of the Corporation. The Keeper receives 15*l.* per Annum from the County Rate.

The Prison for Debtors, or, as it is sometimes called, the Sheriff's Ward, is under the immediate Care of a Serjeant at Mace, who receives 35*l.* per Annum. It is considered to be particularly under the Superintendence of the Sheriff, but the Gaolers apply to the Mayor when any thing particular occurs. This Prison is not regularly visited. It is scanty, and very ill provided with Accommodation.

The House of Correction, sometimes called the Bridewell, contains all who are sentenced to hard Labour, and some Prisoners, Females especially, whom it is wished to separate from others. The Means of Separation are however very insufficient, and the Degree of Fulness of any one Gaol often makes it necessary to disturb even the very slight Classification which is sought for. The Gaoler has 60*l.* per Annum, and the Matron 20*l.* The County Fund pays to the Corporation Fund 7*l.* 10*s.* per Annum for the Prison.

The Fourth Prison, commonly called the Felons Gaol, contains the Remainder of the Prisoners, and in general those who are committed for Trial. The Gaoler, who is one of the Serjeants at Mace, receives 30*l.* per Annum. There is no Matron.

The Chaplain for the last Two Prisons receives 50*l.* per Annum; the Surgeon for all Four receives 25*l.* per Annum, for which he is expected also to attend the Vagrants.

The Magistrates are in the habit of visiting the last Two, which are utterly inadequate to the Purpose of properly containing the different Prisoners; and the Evil is somewhat aggravated by the Number of Smugglers who are brought into the Port, and who are mixed with the Criminals of other Kinds.

South Molton Gaol, Devon, p. 614.

The Gaol was built Five Years ago at the Expense of the Corporation; it cost about 2,000*l.* The Gaol contains Four Cells, and Two large Day-rooms, and Two strong Cells. A good Yard is attached to the Gaol; it is a very convenient and good Gaol. The old Gaol was described as a wretched Place; it contained but Three Apartments, and was very insecure.

St. Ives Gaol, Cornwall, p. 620.

The Gaol has been recently constructed; it consists of Two Apartments or Cells on the Staircase of the Town Hall. The Cells are lighted by means of a small Window looking to the Staircase. No Yard is attached, nor can the Prisoners take any Exercise; the Prisoners cannot be employed in the Rooms, and there is no Means whatever of any Classification except the Separation of Male and Female. It is stated that Persons are rarely in Custody for more than a few Days.

Swansea Gaol, Glamorganshire, p. 393.

There is a Debtors Gaol within the Borough, consisting of Four Rooms and a Yard.

The Gaoler is appointed by the Portreeve.

He receives no Salary from the Corporation, but lives in the Gaol, Rent and Taxes free, and he receives from the Lord of the Borough a Salary of 15*l.* as Gaoler of the Liberty of Gower.

Tenby Gaol, Pembroke, p. 409.

The Gaol is the old Dungeon of the Garrison, consisting of Two large Cells, totally unfit for the Purposes to which they are applied, and scarcely fit for the Purpose of a Lock-up House. Prisoners are rarely confined here; when the Term of Imprisonment exceeds One Month, they are sent to the Gaol at Haverfordwest, under an Agreement with the County.

Instances, however, have occurred of Debtors being confined on Mesne Process for Two or Three Days, and in a recent Case a Man was committed and lay in this Gaol for Six Weeks on a Charge of stealing Shoes, upon which the Bill was ignored by the Grand Jury.

The Gaoler, who is a Burgess, and appointed by the Bailiffs, receives a Salary of 2*l.* a Year.

The Gaol is seldom used, except for Persons committed for Trial at the Town Sessions, for those convicted of slight Offences, and for Smugglers. A Person, however, was confined there for Two or Three Weeks some Time ago, under Arrest from the Court of Record. The Gaol consists of some dark Cells without any Area, and is in every respect unfit for its Purposes. The Corporation Justices have made a Contract with the County, by which they are enabled to send their Felons to Maidstone Gaol, and it is very desirable that this should be done in all Cases.

Tenterden Gaol, Kent, pp. 1066, 1068.

28. The Gaoler has no Emoluments beyond the usual Fees, which are scarcely more than nominal.

Emoluments of Gaoler

A Gaol, House of Correction, and Penitentiary House were built under the Provisions of an Act of Parliament passed in the 53d Geo. 3. These Establishments are under the Superintendence of Two Visiting Magistrates elected annually at the Quarter Sessions. The Gaoler is appointed by the Corporation, with a Salary of 5*l.* a Year; he also receives 45*l.* a Year, under the Act of Parliament, as Keeper of the House of Correction and the Penitentiary. These Salaries were granted a few Years ago instead of Gaol Fees.

Tewkesbury Gaols, p. 126.

The Gaol was built about Thirty Years since, at the Expense of the Town and Parish, by a Liberty Rate. There is a separate Building for the Debtors, of which the Serjeants at Mace are the Keepers. The Gaoler receives a Salary of 25*l.* per Annum out of the Liberty Rate, and the Prisoners are supported out of the same Fund. The Magistrates have no stated Periods for visiting the Gaol, but inspect it occasionally. The Prisoners are sometimes employed in breaking Stones and beating Hemp. There is no regular Chaplain. The Gaol contains Six Cells, Two Day-rooms, and a Yard.

Tiverton Gaol, Devon, p. 627.

The Gaol is an insufficient Building. There is a small Yard with Five Cells, very much exposed to the Weather, none of the Windows being glazed. There is no sufficient Accommodation for putting the Prisoners to work. The Number of Prisoners seldom exceeds Three or Four. Offenders are seldom committed for a longer Term than Three Months.

Torrington Gaol, Devon, p. 635.

The Gaol consists of Two small Cells, neither properly lighted nor ventilated, under the same Roof with the Guildhall, altogether unfit for the Confinement of Prisoners, except for a very short Period of Time, as when committed for Re-examination.

Totness Gaol, Devon, p. 643.

The Gaol consists of an outer Room, with Two Cells adjoining, and a larger boarded Room above. There is no Yard attached to it.

Tregony Gaol, Cornwall, p. 650.

The Gaol is well situated, clean, and sufficiently commodious. It consists of Three Cells on the Ground Floor and Three above: the latter are boarded. None of the Windows of the Cells are glazed, but there are Fire-places in Two of them. The Gaol is occasionally visited by the Magistrates. It is now only used as a Lock-up House, except when the County Quarter Sessions are held here, which occurs once a Year.

Truro Gaol, Cornwall, p. 657.

There is a Lock-up House under the Town Hall, consisting of One Room, which is occasionally used for safe Custody till Prisoners can be conveyed to the County Gaol, but more frequently for a Shelter during the Night for the Irish Vagrants passing through the Town.

Usk Gaol, Monmouth, p. 417.

There is a Gaol for the Confinement of Offenders before Commitment, and a Debtors Ward; but no Debtor has been confined for the last Forty Years. Prisoners under Sentence are transmitted to the County Gaol.

Wallingford Gaol, Berks, p. 134.

There is no Gaol or House of Correction within the Borough. A Lock up Room, of which the Serjeant at Mace and Constables have Keys, has been occasionally used for confining Persons arrested on Mesne Process from the Court of Record; but no Instance of the Sort has occurred within the last Twenty Years.

Wareham, Dorsetshire, p. 1361.

By the Charter of the 23d July, 31 Eliz., the Corporation are permitted to have within the City a Prison and Gaol for the Custody of all Persons attached, or in any Way committed to Prison, for any Cause which may, under that or any other Charter of the Queen, be inquired of, prosecuted, punished, or determined; the Serjeants at Mace to be Keepers of the Gaol. The Prison which still exists is used for committing Felons and others examined by the Magistrates of the City or Neighbourhood previous to their Removal to the County Gaol; it also serves for lodging the Prisoners who are brought to Wells for Trial at the Sessions or Assizes, and the Insolvents who attend the Court of the Commissioners, which is held periodically in this City. It is kept up at the Expense of the Corporation, and an Officer of their own takes charge of it.

Wells Gaol, Somerset, p. 1372.

There was a Gaol under the old Town Hall, which is now pulled down. At present there is nothing of the Kind.

Westbury, Wilts, p. 1379.

West Looe Gaol, Cornwall, p. 541.

The Gaol consists of Two Cells, without Day-room or Yard, and is only fit to be used as a Lock-up House.

Weymouth Gaol, Dorsetshire, p. 1388.

Debtors.

Felons.

The Gaol properly consists of only Two small Cells, which are situated behind the Town Hall, and which were made some Years ago when an Escape was effected from the Prison in front of the Town Hall. Debtors taken in execution are sometimes confined in these Cells, but it more usually happens that upon giving Security they are permitted to occupy the Parts of the Building which are below the Town Hall, and which afford better Accommodation than the Cells. Not more than One or Two Debtors are taken in execution within the Borough in the Course of the Year. Prisoners who are to be tried for Felony at the Sessions are committed to these Cells, and are supported there at the Expense of the Corporation. One of the Serjeants at Mace has the Charge of the Gaol, but the Mayor is considered as being the legal Keeper of it, and he is responsible in case of a Debtor's Escape.

Wilton Gaol, Wilts, p. 1041.

There was formerly a Prison in which Persons were confined under the Process of the Court of Record, and One Person is remembered to have been confined in it about Sixty Years ago. The Dimensions of the Prison being small, he had the Privilege of going out by Day and ranging in the open Air as far as a Chain of Fifteen or Twenty Yards in Length, by which he was attached, would allow him to go, and it was only during the Night that he was in close Confinement. The Prison is now only used as a Lock-up House.

Winchelsea Gaol, Sussex, pp. 1075, 1076.

There is a strong Place of Confinement under the Town Hall, in which Smugglers have been occasionally imprisoned; but it is not at all adapted for the Confinement of Persons for any Length of Time.

Functions of Serjeant at Mace, Gaoler and Crier.

The Serjeant at Mace attends at and proclaims all the Courts and Assemblies. He serves all the Precepts, and summons the Juries. When the Court of Record was in operation, the Serjeant at Mace was one of the Attornies of it, and the Person to whom the Process was directed. The present Serjeant at Mace is also Gaoler, Crier, Water Bailiff, and Constable. His Salary as Serjeant is 3*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* He receives from the Corporation 5*s.* for every Jury which he summons. He has an annual Allowance of 1*l.* for taking care of the Court Hall. He has a Salary, as Gaoler, of 25*l.* paid out of the Town Rate. He has no Emoluments as Water Bailiff. He has the customary Fees of Constable for executing Warrants. He has no Allowance as Crier, and his Earnings as such are very trifling.

Winchester City Gaol, Hants.

The Persons committed for the City Sessions are confined in the City Gaol, and the Criminals sentenced to Imprisonment are confined there, unless they are sentenced to hard Labour; in that Case they are sent to the County Gaol, which is within the City, and 8*s.* is paid for each Prisoner every Week to the County. The Civil Prisoners are confined in the same Gaol. By an Ordinance of the 25th of June 1800 it was determined that a new City Gaol should be built, and the old one pulled down. An Ordinance of the 11th of March 1801 directs an Application to Parliament for a Bill to defray the Expenses of building the Gaol by a Rate on the Inhabitants. The Act passed in July 1801. It is intituled "An Act for completing the Common Gaol," and it recites the partial Erection of the new Gaol, and the Inadequacy of the ordinary Funds of the Corporation to complete it, and to purchase some Houses occupying certain Sites. The Mayor, Aldermen, and Bailiffs for the Time being are appointed Commissioners. The Money to arise under the Act is to be applied, first, towards discharging the Expenses of the Act, and secondly, to completing the Gaol and purchasing the Houses. Power is then given to raise Money, not exceeding 210*l.* in one Year, by assessing the Occupiers who are rateable under the first Paving Act, "so that the Money from Time to Time to be raised, exclusive of the Interest, shall not exceed in the whole, and when added together (computing from the passing of this Act until the raising or levying such Money shall actually cease), the Sum of Three thousand Pounds." The Power is to cease on the Completion of the building of the Gaol and of the Purchase of the Houses. Power is given to borrow to the Amount of 3,000*l.* The Commissioners immediately borrowed the full Sum of the 3,000*l.* There was at that Time a heavy Debt due from the Corporation for Money borrowed and expended in the partial Erection of the Gaol up to the passing of the Act for its Completion. The Commissioners took, from the 3,000*l.* borrowed, the Sum of 1,394*l.* 2*s.*, which they applied to the Extinction of the Debt so incurred before the passing of the Act.

The Assessments up to 1830 inclusively varied from 235*l.* to 290*l.*, and the Average was about 260*l.*

The Sums collected varied from 218*l.* to 64*l.*, and the Average was about 194*l.*

The whole Amount raised was 5,444*l.* The Payments in 1829 were 64*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, and no Payments were made afterwards. The whole of the Arrears, up to 1829 inclusively, came to 1,959*l.* 19*s.* Some Parts of the Sums levied were applied to the current Expenses of the Bridewell, such as Tithes, Rates, Insurance, and Stationery. It is said that the Payment of the Rate was never enforced from any Person who did not choose to pay. We have no Means of investigating the Correctness of this Assertion. The Creditors for the Sum borrowed under the Act applied for a Mandamus to compel the Commissioners to levy Rates to pay the Interest of the Debt on the 9th of April 1833. The Corporation proposed to pay 1,400*l.* from the Corporate Property, on condition that the Inhabitants would

would submit to the Rate. The Inhabitants held a Meeting on a Two Days Notice, and accepted the Proposal. A few, however, still object; but it is believed that there will ultimately be no Resistance.

Independently of the Inferences to be drawn from the Misapplication of the Funds above detailed, it is important to ascertain in what Sense the Corporation could be considered to be incapable of completing their Gaol, and to be driven to demand a Power of Taxation for a Municipal Purpose. This will be best estimated by the Nature of the Disbursements of Corporate Property which have taken place since the obtaining of the Act, which we shall give, as far as we have been able to ascertain them, in a later Part of the Report. It should also be noticed, that between the Year 1820 and the present Time the Corporation has been compelled to part with nearly 9,000*l.* of their Property, independently of the charitable Trust Property of which the Management has been transferred to other Hands, and into which it is not our Province to inquire. But we have been unable to discover that any of the Functions for which Municipal Institutions are supposed to be created have been either better or worse fulfilled since this Loss of Corporate Property has occurred; and this suggests the Question, what Demands upon the Property could have existed at the Time of passing the Act, which could justify the Assertion that the Corporation, from Want of pecuniary Means, was compelled to tax the Inhabitants for Municipal Purposes.

The Treasurer receives 15*l.* annually: the Salary was formerly 20*l.* The Accounts are very irregularly kept and audited. There is no Item in his Book since 1831; the last Audit, including all 1830, was in February 1832. He is at present the City Chamberlain.

The present Clerk to the Commissioners receives an annual Salary of 5*l.* 5*s.* He is the working Town Clerk of the Corporation.

The Bridewell appears to us to be sufficient for the Purposes of the City; it has seldom many Inmates; it is very uncommon to have at the same Time Criminal and Civil Prisoners of both Sexes; and when such a Circumstance occurs, the Four Classes are separated by a slight Encroachment on the Arrangements of the Keeper, who is at present one of the Serjeants at Mace.

There is also a Lock-up House belonging to the Corporation, to which Offenders are put for a few Hours, when apprehended by the Peace Officers, before Examination. Lock-up House.

The only Connexion which the Corporation has with the County Gaol is the Maintenance there of the City Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour, mentioned above. County Gaol.

There is no Gaol in the Borough, but a Dungeon under the Town Hall is used for the safe Custody of Prisoners until Commitment, and for the Confinement of Persons convicted before the Magistrates of petty Offences. This Place is in the Charge of the Constables, under the general Superintendence of the Corporation. Woodstock, Oxford, p. 143.

The Sheriffs and Magistrates have the Superintendence of the City Gaol, and Two Magistrates are appointed at every Quarter Sessions as Visiting Magistrates. The Gaol was built in 1823, and is well regulated, but insecure. Worcester Gaol, p. 157.

There is a good Lock-up House, to which Offenders are consigned previous to Examination before the Magistrates. Chipping or High Wycombe Gaol, Bucks, p. 43.

No. 14.

Returns and Tables of the Gaol and House of Correction at Reading.

QUARTER'S EXPENDITURE — Easter, 1835.

Officers and Salaries.	£	s.	d.
1. Keeper	62	10	0
2. Chaplain	50	0	0
3. Surgeon	17	10	0
4. Matron, at 15s. per Week	9	15	0
5. Deputy Keeper, at 52l. per Annum	13	0	0
6. Turnkey, Storekeeper, &c., at 20s. per Week	13	0	0
7. Turnkey, No. 1, at 17s. per Week	11	1	0
8. Turnkey, No. 2, at 16s. ditto	10	8	0
9. Turnkey, No. 3, at 15s. ditto	9	15	0
Other Allowances	11	7	6
Total	208	6	6

Diet.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
17,367 lbs. of Bread, at 1¼d.	90	9	0¾			
1,532 lbs. of Meat, at 3d.	19	3	0			
17½ Cwt. of Oatmeal, at 17s. 6d.	15	6	3			
4 Ditto of Salt, at 2s. 9d.	0	11	0			
33 Bushels of Potatoes, at 1s. 4d.	2	4	0			
1 Ditto of Onions, at 4s.	0	4	0			
2¼ lbs. of Cheese, at 8d.	0	1	6			
Other Allowance, by Surgeon's Order, for sick Prisoners						
Total	127	18	9¾	127	18	9¾
				208	6	6

Repairs, &c. in and about the Prison.	£	s.	d.
Carpenter	0	18	10
Bricklayer	3	9	0
Plumber	4	4	8
Glazier and Painter	1	1	3
Locksmith	4	1	0
Ironfounder	9	0	9
Mason			
Materials for Repairs	2	9	4
Brazier and Tinman	4	19	9
Cooper			
Total	30	4	7

Clothing and Bedding.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Clothing	10	5	0			
Shoes	6	0	0			
Bedding	15	18	9			
Straw for ditto	1	7	6			
Calico, Thread, Worsted, &c. for Repairs	1	14	2½			
Total	35	2	5½	35	2	5½
New Works						
Repairs of Mill	13	16	3	13	16	3
				30	4	7

Fuel, Oil, Soap, &c.	£	s.	d.
10 Chaldron of Coals, at 38s.	19	0	0
300 of Chips, at 7s.	1	1	0
6 Dozen of Candles, at 5s. 8d.	1	14	0
10½ Gallons of Oil, at 3s.	1	11	6
Cotton, Brimstone, and Charcoal	0	0	10
3 Cwt. 26 lb. of Soap, at 48s.	7	15	2
12 lbs. of Soda, at 3d.	0	3	0
Brooms, Brushes, Mops, &c.	1	4	6
Total	32	10	0

Printing.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Stationery	0	11	6			
Books of Instruction	2	3	2			
	2	14	8	2	14	8
Money given to 73 Prisoners on their Discharge	3	7	5½	3	7	5½
				32	10	0

Conveyance of Prisoners.	£	s.	d.
Conveying 30 Prisoners to Sessions at Reading, 6 Guards, &c.	2	5	0
Conveying 5 Convicts to Woolwich, Turnkey, 1 Guard, &c.	6	14	6
Conveying 9 Convicts to ditto, Turnkey, and 2 Guards	9	4	6
Conveying 49 Prisoners to Assizes at Reading, 6 Guards, &c.	4	10	0
Total	22	14	0

Stores and Incidentals.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Two Chairs and Table for Turnkey	0	16	0			
Poor Rate	0	7	6			
Surgeon for Truss	1	1	0			
Postage of Letters	2	8	1			
Wands for Sheriff	0	4	0			
Beer for Nurse	0	7	8			
Incidentals	1	18	6			
Total	7	2	9	7	2	9
				22	14	0
Total Expenditure for the Quarter ending 28th March 1835				483	17	5¾

Receipts applicable to the County Rate.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount received for Support of Soldiers	1	14	0			
Amount received for Rent of House and Garden Ground	4	10	0			
Ditto - Ditto - Ditto Mill	8	1	6			
Ditto of Net Profit arising from productive Labour	0	3	9			
Total Amount of Cash received	14	9	3	14	9	3
Total Sum paid by the Treasurer				469	8	2¾

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Sum paid by the Treasurer brought forward - -		469 8 2¾
Amount of Borough Bills.		
The Borough of Reading for Subsistence, &c. of 16 Prisoners, at 3s. 6d. per Week, as per Bill - - - - - - - - - -	16 19 0	
The Borough of New Windsor, for 11 Prisoners, at 3s. 6d. per Week, as per Bill -	13 18 6	
Total Amount paid to the Treasurer -	30 17 6	30 17 6
Total Amount from County Rate - -	- -	438 10 8¾

	£ s. d.
N. B. Amount of Salaries paid by the Treasurer to Officers - - -	208 6 6
Ditto - of Bills - Ditto - to Tradesmen - - - -	213 8 5¾
Ditto - of small Bills paid by the Treasurer to the Keeper, included in the above Account - - - - - - - - -	62 2 6
Total Expenditure for the Quarter ending March 28, 1835. -	483 17 5¾

Storekeeper's Return.

NAME OF ARTICLE.	RETURN, DECEMBER 26th.			ALTERATIONS.			REMAINS 28th MARCH.		
	In Store.	In Use.	Total.	Received during the Quarter.	Issued during the Quarter.	Cut up for Repairs &c.	In Store.	In Use.	Total.
Male.									
Jackets - - -	46	170	216	—	13	4	33	179	212
Waistcoats - - -	50	164	214	—	10	3	40	171	211
Breeches and Trousers -	47	169	216	—	17	17	30	169	199
Caps - - -	60	159	219	—	22	18	38	163	201
Shirts - - -	26	261	287	72	48	86	50	223	273
Shoes, Pairs of - -	4	149	153	36	17	25	23	141	164
Stockings and Socks, Pairs of	94	315	409	—	24	47	70	292	362
Blankets - - -	42	344	386	50	18	15	74	347	421
Rugs - - -	14	163	177	25	6	13	33	156	189
Beds - - -	—	162	162	3	3	8	—	157	157
Female.									
Aprons - - -	6	31	37	—	—	9	6	22	28
Shifts - - - -	12	25	37	—	6	7	6	24	30
Handkerchiefs - -	24	50	74	—	—	3	24	47	71
Jackets - - -	7	19	26	—	—	2	7	17	24
Gowns - -	7	20	27	—	—	3	7	17	24
Caps - - -	8	38	46	—	—	—	8	38	46
Flannel Petticoats - -	—	20	20	—	—	1	—	19	19
Sheets, Pairs of - -	—	16	16	—	—	1	—	15	15
Towels - - -	—	68	68	—	—	—	—	68	68

The Articles cut up are by a written Authority from the Visiting Justices, and are appropriated as Occasion may require, namely Repairs, Mops, &c.

1834.	Coals.	Chips.	Candles.	Soap.	Oatmeal.	Potatoes.	Salt.	Hr. brms.	Sr. bshes.	Brh. brms.	Worsted.	Thread.	Calico.	Flannel.	Sheeting.	Combs.	Mess Pans.
	ch. bs.	bund.	lbs.	lbs.	ct. qr. lb. oz.	bs. gl. qt.	lbs.				lb. oz.	lb. oz.	yds.	yds.	yds.		
In Store 26th December	4 1½	309	14	95	1 1 0 8	18 3 2	200	3	13	1	1 0	0 8	18	16	27½	20	44
Rec[d] during the Quarter	10 0	300	72	362	17 2 0 0	33 0 0	448			78	5 0	5 0					
Total - -	14 1½	609	86	457	18 3 0 8	51 3 2	648	3	13	79	6 0	5 8	18	16	27½	20	44
Issued during the Quarter	13 18	609	73	260	15 2 24 8	42 3 2	498	2	4	67	5 0	3 0	18	2	22½	12	22
Remains 28th March 1835	0 19½		13	197	3 0 4 0	9 0 0	150	1	9	12	1 0	2 8		14	5	8	22

The Contract Price for the different Articles is as follows :—

	£ s. d.
Man's Grey Jacket - - - - -	0 4 0
Ditto Waistcoat - - - -	0 2 2
Ditto Trousers - - - -	0 4 0
Cap - - - - -	0 0 7
Strong Linen Shirt - - -	0 2 10
Pair of Socks - - - -	0 1 3
Ditto - Shoes - - - -	0 3 4
The Amount of Suit for a Man - -	0 18 2
Former Price - - -	1 13 5
Saving in a Man's Suit - -	0 15 3

	£ s. d.
Boy's Fustian Jacket - - -	0 4 4
Ditto Trousers - - - -	0 3 6
Cap - - - - -	0 0 7
Striped Cotton Shirt - - -	0 1 7
Pair of Socks - - -	0 0 10½
Ditto - Shoes - - -	0 3 4
The Amount of a Suit for a Boy - -	0 14 2½
Former Price - - -	1 13 5
Saving in a Boy's Suit - -	0 19 2½

	£	s.	d.
One Pair of large Blankets	0	10	0
One Rug	0	2	9
Brown Sheeting per Yard	0	0	8
(each Bed contains 4 Yards and 1 Foot.)			
Strong Calico per Yard (for Repairs)	0	0	5½
Harecastle Coals per Chaldron	1	18	0
Hoop Chips per Hundred Bundles	0	7	0

	£	s.	d.
Best Yellow Soap per Cwt.	2	8	0
Ditto Candles per Dozen Pounds	0	5	8
Good Oatmeal per Cwt.	0	17	6
Salt - Ditto	0	2	0
Beef without Bone per lb.	0	0	0
Potatoes per Bushel	0	1	4
Bread per lb.	0	0	1¼

DIETARY.

	No. 1.			No. 2.			No. 3.		
	1½lb. of Wheaten Third's Bread, at least Twenty-four Hours old, each Day, at 1¼ per lb.								
	Estimated Cost, 1s. 8¾d.			Ditto 1s. 6¾d. ⅛			Do. 1s. 3½d. per Head per Week.		
	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	Pint of Gruel	—	Pint of Gruel	Pint of Gruel	—	Pint of Gruel	Pint of Gruel	—	Pint of Gruel
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Ditto	½lb. of Beef. 1lb. of Potatoes.	Pint of Soup	Ditto	5⅓oz. of Beef. ½lb. of Potatoes	Pint of Soup	Ditto	—	Pint of Soup
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday	Ditto	—	Pint of Gruel	Ditto	—	Pint of Gruel	Ditto	—	Pint of Gruel

There is allowed 2½ oz. of Oatmeal for One Quart of Gruel; the Soup is also thickened with 2½ oz. of Oatmeal to each Quart, and Herbs and Salt are added. The Cost of Fuel for Cookery per Week this Quarter is 6s. 8d. or ½d. ⅛ per Man.

Price of Bread at the present Time, April 1835, 1⅛d. per lb.

Infirmary Diet Table, by which the Surgeon regulates the Allowance to each sick Prisoner daily.

Ordinary Diet.	Extra Diet.	Low Diet.
Three Quarters of a Pound of Bread, One Quarter of a Pound of Meat, One Quart of Gruel.	Three Quarters of a Pound of Bread, Half a Pound of Meat, One Quart of Gruel.	Three Quarters of a Pound of Bread, with Barley-water, One Twelfth of an Ounce of Tea, with Half an Ounce of Sugar for each Time it may be ordered, whether for Breakfast, Supper, or both, and a Quarter of a Pint of Milk.
Estimated Cost per Week, 1s. 2d.	Ditto, 1s. 7¼d. per Week.	Ditto, 1s. 2½d. per Head per Week.

The average Number of Sick per Day this Quarter was 2$\frac{11}{46}$. Cost, according to the above Diet Table, 1l. 14s. 4¾d. Extras, none. Total Cost, 1l. 14s. 4¾d.

The average Number of Prisoners per Day in this Quarter was 139$\frac{7}{46}$; namely, 124$\frac{1}{23}$ Males, 8$\frac{1}{23}$ Females, 6$\frac{11}{46}$ Boys. Of the Males, 55 have been employed on the Tread-wheels. This Quarter contained 92 Days.

The average Number of Prisoners receiving Rations per Day was 113$\frac{47}{92}$ Males, 7$\frac{7}{46}$ Females, 6$\frac{11}{46}$ Boys.

The average total Cost a Day for a Prisoner was, in 1831, 1s. 6d.$\frac{39}{48}$; 1832, 1s. 4½d.$\frac{1}{4}$; 1833, 1s. 4d.$\frac{39}{48}$; 1834, 11½d.$\frac{37}{47}$. This Quarter, upon total Expenditure, 9$\frac{11}{16}$, deducting Receipts, 8$\frac{5}{16}$d.

Comparative Number of Sick Prisoners during the following Years, ending Michaelmas 1834, with Cost for Sustenance and Extras. Medicines are included in the Surgeon's Salary.

	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.
Total of Sick	211	58	64	73
Of these, extra Diet was allowed to	38	39	64	5
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charges of extra Diet	59 15 7	99 4 6	128 6 6	7 16 0
For the Three first Years, the whole of these Prisoners also received, during Illness, the Gaol Allowance of Bread	11 10 11	12 17 6	15 12 6¼	0 7 7 *
Cost of Sick for the last Nine Months	- - -	- - -	- - -	6 8 4½ †
Total Cost	71 6 6	112 2 0	143 19 0¼	14 11 11½

* The above Charge of £8 3s. 7d. is from Michaelmas to January. Number of Sick, 15.

† Since January, the Sick are charged according to the above Diet Table £6 8s. 4½d., which includes every Charge for Sustenance and Extras. Number of Sick, 58.

The DESCRIPTION and NUMBER of PRISONERS confined in the Gaol and House of Correction immediately previous to the respective Quarter Sessions held within the last Twelve Months have been as follows.

		Midsummer Sessions.	Michaelmas Sessions.	Epiphany Sessions.	Easter Sessions.
Convicted of Felony	Males	17	17	11	26
	Females	2	1	1	1
	Boys	3	-	2	1
		22	18	14	28
Convicted of Misdemeanors, including those under summary Convictions	Males	27	31	53	29
	Females	8	6	4	—
	Boys	1	4	2	5
		36	41	59	34
Committed on a Charge or Suspicion of Felony	Males	26	20	36	21
	Females	2	4	1	1
	Boys	2	1	2	1
		30	25	39	23
Committed on a Charge or Suspicion of Misdemeanor	Males	4	3	4	3
	Females	1	-	1	—
	Boys	-	1	—	—
		5	4	5	3
Soldiers		1	1	1	0
For further Examination	Males	-	-	1	—
	Females	—	—	—	—
	Boys	-	-	1	—
		0	0	2	0
Vagrants	Males	19	7	8	5
	Females	-	4	2	1
	Boys	-	-	2	—
		19	11	12	6
		113	100	132	94
	Debtors	14	16	14	16
	Total	127	116	146	110

The following TABLE will exhibit the STATE of the GAOL and HOUSE OF CORRECTION for the past Year.

QUARTER.	Number of Prisoners committed in each Quarter.	Greatest Number of Prisoners at One Time.	Smallest Number of Prisoners at One Time.	Cases of Sickness in each Quarter.	Greatest Number of Sick at One Time.	Deaths.
Midsummer Sessions	131	-	-	24	5	—
Michaelmas Ditto	157	-	99	16	-	1
Epiphany Ditto	209	160	-	24	-	1
Easter Ditto	143	-	-	17	—	—
Total in the Year	640			81		2

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

DISPOSAL of PRISONERS since Michaelmas 1833 to Michaelmas 1834.

	Male.	Female.
Hanged	1	—
Transported	53	1
Imprisoned for different Periods, and since discharged	383	45
Acquitted and discharged	60	1
Discharged on Recognizance	1	—
Discharged on Payment of Fines	9	—
Debtors discharged	36	1
Now in Custody for Assizes	5	—
Now in Custody, and take their Trials at these Sessions	18	4
Debtors in Custody	17	—
In Custody for different Periods	58	11
Total	641	63

COMPARATIVE NUMBER of PRISONERS COMMITTED to the Gaol and House of Correction for the following Years, ending Michaelmas 1834.

Total Number of Prisoners.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.
Convicted Felons	154	92	87	127
Do. Misdemeanors, including those under summary Convictions	122	84	145	141
Assaults	31	54	58	51
Game Laws	31	60	65	86
Committed on a Charge or Suspicion of Felony	71	37	34	44
Committed on a Charge or Suspicion of Misdemeanor	15	17	15	15
Soldiers	12	11	23	18
Debtors	48	38	55	53
Vagrants	73	67	104	104
For further Examination	24	35	54	65
Total	581	495	640	704

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—*continued.*

Of all EXPENSES of the County Gaol and House of Correction for the following Years, ending Michaelmas 1834, with the Receipts for each Year deducted, showing the actual Sum charged on County Rates.

	1831.			1832.			1833.			1834.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Expenditure	3,895	16	5	2,875	8	10¾	2,831	15	0½	2,375	9	0¼
Ditto New Works	163	8	4	139	15	0	979	7	2	444	12	10¾
Total Expenditure	4,059	4	9	3,015	3	10¾	3,811	2	2½	2,820	1	11
Receipts	164	17	4½	177	15	7½	196	3	7½	338	8	9
Total Expense	3,894	7	4½	2,837	8	3¼	3,614	18	7	2,481	13	2

N.B.—In 1832 500*l.*, and in 1833 550*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* were paid, pursuant to the Will of the late Mr. Shutes, for a Building for juvenile Offenders; these Sums are therefore not included in the above Account. A further Sum of 979*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* charged for new Works in 1833, and 444*l.* 12*s.* 10¾*d.* in 1834, is included, having been paid by the County for an Infirmary and other Expenses of the new Building.

A RETURN of RE-COMMITTED PRISONERS during the last Quarter, stating the present Offence and the Number of Times committed to the Gaol and House of Correction at Reading.

	Name.	Parish.	Offence.	No. of Times.
1	Allen, Thomas	Hurst	Poaching	Twice.
2	Allum, Richard	Bradfield	Rogue and Vagabond	Twice.
3	Barker, James	Pangbourn	Poaching	Five Times.
4	Barnes, James	Hungerford	Housebreaking	Three Times, and often at Devizes.
5	Barnett, William	Bray	Assault with Intent to commit Felony	Three Times.
6	Benham, Richard	Newbury	Assault	Four Times.
7	Bird, James	Greenham	Stealing Potatoes	Four Times.
8	Bird, William	Newbury	Housebreaking	Twice—once transported.
9	Brown, Edward	Shottesbrook	Stealing Ducks	Twice.
10	Chapman, Thomas	Bray	Stealing Surgical Instruments	Twice.
11	Collins, Edward	Speenhamland	Stealing Brass	Twice.
12	Cooper, Benjamin	New Windsor	Housebreaking	Twice.
13	Gutteridge, Samuel	Old Windsor	Stealing a Trunk	Twice.
14	Hanmer, Catherine	Old Windsor	Rogue and Vagabond	Twice.
15	Hawkins, John	Reading	Stealing Money	Twice.
16	Hawtree, William	New Windsor	Housebreaking	Twice.
17	Hazell, William	Greenham	Stealing a Wheelbarrow	Twice.
18	Keeley, Edward	Wargrave	Poaching	Three Times.
19	Kent, James	Wargrave	Highway Robbery	Seven Times.
20	Myers, Samuel	Speenhamland	Stealing Iron, &c.	Twice.
21	Newbury, George	Newbury	Assault	Four Times.
22	Payne, John	Reading	Rogue and Vagabond	Four Times.
23	Pike, William	Basildon	Poaching	Twice.
24	Plummer, Thomas	Hurley	Poaching	Five Times.
25	Plummer, Peter	Wargrave	Stealing from the Person	Twice.
26	Smith, John	Greenham	Stealing Potatoes	Twice.
27	Smith, John	Chieveley	Damaging Trees	Twice.
28	Smith, John, *alias* John Thomas	Shinfield	Rogue and Vagabond	Twice.
29	Smith, William	Tilehurst	Stealing a Hand-saw	Three Times.
30	Stanbrook, George	Hurley	Poaching	Three Times.
31	Stevens, George	Bray	Poaching	Twice.
32	Taplin, Thomas	Egham	Poaching	Five Times.
33	Vicus, William	Tilehurst	Housebreaking	Five Times.
34	Warner, William	Pangbourn	Poaching	Twice.
35	Watkins, George	Bray	Stealing a Net	Twice.
36	Wiggins, Joseph	Hurst	Stealing Beans	Twice.
37	Wilson, William	Windsor	Highway Robbery	Twice.
38	Wooderson, George	Tilehurst	Poaching	Six Times.

Examined and allowed.

MORIS XIMENES,
H. RUSSELL,
J. BLAGRAVE,
} Visiting Justices.

Brought from the Lords, 28 July 1835.

SECOND REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO

THE PRESENT STATE

OF THE SEVERAL

GAOLS AND HOUSES OF CORRECTION

IN

ENGLAND AND WALES;

WITH

THE MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

AND

AN APPENDIX.

Ordered to be printed 12th May 1835.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
28 *July* 1835.

REPORT - - - - - - - - - - - - p. iii

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - - (317)

APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - (175)

SECOND REPORT.

BY THE LORDS COMMITTEES appointed a Select Committee for the Purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon the present State of the several Gaols and Houses of Correction in the Counties, Cities, and Corporate Towns within England and Wales; upon the Rules and Discipline therein established with regard to the Treatment of unconvicted as well as convicted Persons; and also whether the Sentences under which convicted Prisoners are confined are or can be therein properly or efficiently carried into execution; and further to report whether any and what Alterations appear to be necessary in the Laws now in force for the Government and Regulation or in the Construction of such Gaols and Houses of Correction, in order to insure an Uniformity of Discipline throughout the whole, as well as the proper and efficient Execution of such Sentences; and to whom it was an Instruction to extend their Inquiries to the present State of Prisons in Scotland; and to whom were referred certain further Returns and Papers in relation to the Subject before the Committee;—

ORDERED TO REPORT,

THAT since the Committee made their First Report they have continued their Inquiries into various other Matters connected with the Subject referred to them; and have now to submit to the House an additional Series of Resolutions, embodying the further Results of their Examination, and the Conclusions to which the Evidence has brought them.

In order to render the whole Subject more clear to the House, and to bring it all under One connected View, the Committee have repeated in this Report those Resolutions which were contained in the First Report; and they are confident that the whole taken together, as well as each in its separate Effects, will tend to facilitate the Formation of a more uniform and efficient Code of Regulations for the Management of Prisons.

The House will observe that the Committee have not entered into any general Analysis of the Evidence, or any detailed Reasoning upon the Results to which it has led them: they have thought it would be more satisfactory to the House, and more conducive to an early Consideration of the Subject, that they should shape their Report in the compendious Form which they have adopted, rather than that they should dwell in detail upon the great Mass of Evidence which they have taken, and the infinite Variety of Matter to which their Inquiry has naturally been directed. They think it necessary, however, to make some explanatory Comments upon some of the Resolutions for the purpose of guarding against any Misconception which might possibly arise

arise with respect to them; and they refer to the Evidence itself, (drawn as is from Sources of great Authority, and giving the Results of much practical Experience,) as affording the most effectual Means of verifying the Conclusions of the Committee, and justifying their earnest Appeal to the Legislature for a substantial Revision of Prison Management.

1st. That it is expedient that One uniform System of Prison Discipline be established in every Gaol and House of Correction in England and Wales.

2d. That, for the sake of securing Uniformity of Discipline, it is expedient that the Rules and Regulations of the Gaols shall in future be submitted to the Secretary of State for his Approval, instead of, as at present, to the Judges of Assize.

3d. That Inspectors of Prisons be appointed to visit the Prisons from Time to Time, and to report to the Secretary of State.

4th. That entire Separation, except during the Hours of Labour and of Religious Worship and Instruction, is absolutely necessary for preventing Contamination, and for securing a proper System of Prison Discipline.

5th. That Silence be enforced, so as to prevent all Communication between Prisoners both before and after Trial.

6th. That Persons whose Trials have been postponed, or who, having been tried, have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, shall not be confined in the Gaols or Houses of Correction.

7th. That the Officers of the Prisons shall not be permitted to receive any Portion of the Prisoners Earnings.

8th. That the Earnings of convicted Prisoners shall be hereafter paid to the Fund out of which the Prison is maintained.

9th. That the Dietary of every Prison be subject to the Approval of the Secretary of State as a Part of the Prison Rules and Regulations, and that it is most desirable that convicted Prisoners should not be permitted to receive other than the Gaol Allowance; but if in any Case of very urgent and special Necessity the Surgeon should order any Increase of Diet to a Prisoner not in the Infirmary, he shall state in his Journal the Cause and Extent of such Order.

10th. That the Practice in some Prisons, and in certain Cases, of paying Money to the Prisoners in lieu of supplying them either wholly or in part with Food or Fuel, be declared to be illegal.

11th. That the Use of Tobacco in any Shape by the Prisoners be prohibited in every Prison.

12th. That convicted Prisoners be not permitted to receive Visits or Letters from their Friends during the first Six Months of their Imprisonment, unless under peculiar and pressing Circumstances.

13th. That the Use of Day-rooms, as such, be discontinued.

14th. That no Wardsman, Monitor, Yardsman, or Prisoner be permitted to sell any thing whatever, or to let out to Hire any Article to any Person confined in the Prison.

15th. That where the Chaplain shall be appointed to a Prison or Prisons, and the Number of Prisoners, including Debtors, which it is calculated may be received therein shall not be less than Fifty, it is most desirable that the Time of such Chaplain should be devoted to the Duties of such Prison

or Prisons, that he should not hold any other Preferment with Cure of Souls, and that he should reside as near as possible to the same.

16th. That in every Prison wherein the Number of Prisoners exceeds Fifty a Schoolmaster, not being one of the Prisoners, shall be appointed.

17th. That every Prison be provided with a certain Number of solitary Cells for the Punishment of refractory Prisoners.

18th. That in Cases where the Punishment of whipping is resorted to it is expedient that it should be defined, as regards both the Extent to which it may be carried and the Instruments with which it may be inflicted.

19th. That at every Michaelmas Quarter Sessions Twelve specified Days be appointed, viz[t]. Three in each Quarter, and that on each of such Days the Visiting Justices do visit and inspect the Prison under their Charge, according to the Provisions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Sections of the Gaol Act.

Upon the 1st, 2d, and 3d Resolutions the Committee have no particular Observations to make; but in reference to the 4th and 5th they have to remark, that the Separation of Prisoners, as well as the Prevention of verbal Communication between them, is, in their Opinion, as necessary in the case of Prisoners before Trial as of those who have been convicted. The greatest Mischief is proved, by the whole Tenor of the Evidence, to follow from the Intercourse which is still permitted in many Prisons: the comparatively innocent are seduced, the unwary are entrapped, and the Tendency to Crime in Offenders not entirely hardened is confirmed by the Language, the Suggestions, and the Example of more depraved and systematic Criminals. Every Motive, therefore, of Humanity, as regards the individual Prisoners, and of Policy, as regards the Good of Society in general, requires that the most efficient Regulations should be established, in order to save all Prisoners, and especially the untried, from the frightful Contamination resulting from unrestricted Intercourse. With this view, it seems to be necessary that the Exceptions as to Separation contained in the 4th Resolution should not be extended to Periods of Exercise, which the Law authorizes untried Prisoners to take, and which, if not carefully guarded, might easily be rendered available to the most mischievous Purposes. If it should be thought that such a Rule would involve too great Strictness of Separation in the Case of untried Prisoners, the Committee would refer the House to the Evidence taken in various Prisons from the Prisoners themselves; many of whom, particularly the younger ones, have expressed the greatest Disgust at the Language which they are liable to hear when allowed to congregate together, and a deep Anxiety to be saved from the Evils which many of them know, from sad Experience, must infallibly follow from it. And the Committee are enabled to state, that according to the Regulations which are in force in some Places of Confinement, this Object is attained by allowing the Prisoners to take walking Exercise in single File, with a certain Interval between each Person, and under the immediate Superintendence of an Officer of the Establishment.

The Adoption of the Principle of Separation would necessarily involve the Propriety of making separate Compartments upon each Tread-wheel and Crank Machine, and would be found very convenient in several other Modes of Employment.

Upon the 6th Resolution the Committee would observe, that the Words "whose Trials have been postponed" apply solely to Persons whose Trials have been postponed upon the Ground of Insanity.

In adopting the 8th Resolution, the Committee do not mean to recommend that a convicted Prisoner should, at the Expiration of his Confinement, quit the Prison in a State of positive Destitution; but they conceive, that as all Labour in a Prison must practically be deemed to be Part of the Punishment assigned, its Efficacy would be greatly impaired if he were to look forward to the Prospect of quitting the Prison with Resources derived from the Punishment itself. In fact, the greater the Crime, and the longer the Punishment, the greater would be the Advantage which he would derive from it. It would also operate with great Injustice, as between Two different Classes of Prisoners; viz. those who from bodily Capacity and previous Habits are competent to work profitably, and those who are not. The former might be more depraved, and certainly must have had better Means of earning a Livelihood by honest Industry than the latter; and yet, in the supposed Case, the Labour imposed as a Punishment would ultimately be converted into a Reward, whilst the unskilled Offender would have been equally compelled to work as a Punishment, without deriving the same personal Advantage as his more robust or ingenious Partner in Guilt.

The Rule recommended in the 11th Resolution is already in force in many Prisons, as far as regards Smoking; but as the Use of Tobacco is in fact a stimulating Luxury, it seems inconsistent with any Notion of strict Discipline and the due Pressure of just Punishment to allow it at all, under any Modification whatever. With respect, however, to the Case of Debtors, the Committee, not having yet inquired into that Subject, abstain from expressing any Opinion as to the Application of this Rule to that Class of Prisoners.

The 12th Resolution seems to require some Remarks. It is obvious that nothing could more tend to lighten the Weight of Imprisonment, as well as to unsettle the Minds of Prisoners, and thereby to diminish the Efficacy of Punishment, than frequent Visits from Friends, and frequent Communications by Letter. It is, however, necessary to provide for peculiar and pressing Circumstances; and it might be carrying the Restriction too far if a more frequent Intercourse were altogether prohibited, in the Case of Imprisonment continued beyond a certain Period. The Committee therefore recommend, as a general Rule, entire Prohibition during the first Six Months, with a limited Intercourse afterwards, as sanctioned and regulated by the existing Law. If this Principle be adopted, Prisoners confined for Six Months only, or for any shorter Period, would, during their Confinement, be entirely excluded from receiving either Visits or Letters. Those confined for a longer Period would, at the Expiration of the first Six Months of their Sentence, come into the Enjoyment of a limited Intercourse with their Friends; and although it might appear at first Sight, that the Criminals, whose longer Confinement would lead to the Inference of greater Criminality, would, upon this Principle, undergo, during the latter Part of their Confinement, a less rigorous Degree of Pressure than those whose Sentence was shorter on account of their minor Criminality, the Compensation to the latter, and consequently the Equity of the Principle, is to be found in their earlier Release from Confinement.

13th Resolution. The Committee have abstained from recommending that there should no longer be a Day-room in any Prison, not from any Doubt as to the incalculable Mischief which, as such, they occasion, but because Cases may occur, particularly as regards Female Prisoners with Infants, in which such a Receptacle may be both convenient and useful; but the System of Day-rooms, as such, would obviously be quite inconsistent with the Spirit of the 4th and 5th Resolutions.

The Necessity for the 14th Resolution arises from the Circumstance of the Class of Persons referred to not being included in that Clause of the Gaol Act which prohibits the Officers of the Establishment from supplying the Prisoners. The Principle applies equally to those Prisoners who may at Times be employed within the Prison, and who, according to the Evidence, are in some Cases permitted to supply Articles of that Description.

Upon the 15th Resolution the Committee desire to express their decided Opinion that very satisfactory Effects have attended Religious Instruction in some of the Prisons brought under their Notice, especially in the Penitentiary at Milbank.

It is obvious that by adopting Separation and Silence great Facilities will be obtained for this important Branch of reformatory Discipline; and under such a System the Committee confidently anticipate the most beneficial Results from the Ministrations of a conscientious Chaplain, who would not only administer with Regularity the appointed Services and Ordinances of Religion, but who would also personally devote a large Portion of his Time to the spiritual Instruction of the Prisoners, both individually and in Classes. A due and faithful Discharge of those Duties in Prisons requires the Possession of Qualities of no ordinary Kind, and the Committee cannot but express their Conviction that proper Care in the Selection, and reasonable Liberality in the Remuneration of those Officers, would be amply recompensed by the Benefit, prospective as well as immediate, which would be derivable from their Exertions.

16th. The Committee attach so much Importance to the practical Execution of that Clause of the Gaol Act which requires Instruction to be given in Reading and Writing, that they have felt unwilling to recommend the absolute Disuse of Prisoners for that Purpose, notwithstanding the Objections to which it is obviously liable, and which Experience shows to be well founded; but they are of opinion, that in all Cases comprised in this Resolution the Employment of such Person should be limited to Assistance in giving Instruction, and that the substantive Control and Management of it should be under the Schoolmaster.

The Committee reserve for a further Report the Result of their Inquiries into the Prison System of Scotland, and the Effects of Confinement on board the Hulks. But they cannot conclude the foregoing Summary of their Investigation into the Prison Discipline of England and Wales, without adverting to some Objections which may possibly be urged against the Arrangements which they have recommended.

It may be said that they are calculated to aggravate the Severity of Punishment, and to increase the Expense, already most severely felt, which the Public

is called upon to incur for the Administration of Justice: and it cannot be denied that, as a Matter of Fact, both these Results may be expected to follow, in all Cases, as regards the Amount of the Punishment, and as regards Expense, in those where an improved System of Discipline has not yet been adopted. But it is to be observed, that if the Adoption of a more strict Discipline should add to the actual Weight of Punishment, its Duration may be proportionably diminished. And the Committee look with Confidence to a Diminution of the Period of Confinement as One of the greatest Improvements that, under any Change of System, can be introduced into the Management of our Prisons. On the one Hand, the Punishment itself will prove, from its increased Strictness and its manifest Discomforts, an Object of increased Apprehension: and, on the other Hand, the Curtailment of its Duration will release the Prisoner from his Confinement whilst the first Impressions of its Severity are fresh in his Mind, and before Habit has reconciled him to its Pressure. The young Offender will have learned no new Vice, even if he will not have acquired higher and more operative Principles of good Conduct. The older and more practised Criminal will be deprived of the morbid and guilty Satisfaction (which Experience proves to be habitually strong in the Minds of such Persons) of working Mischief in the Dispositions and Principles of those whom he too frequently endeavours to make his Associates and his Victims. Thus then it may be hoped, that the Inmates of a Prison will leave it with a better Chance of not reverting to their evil Habits, and a fairer Prospect of becoming inoffensive Members of Society. Should these Hopes be realized, and should it be found practicable to shorten the Term of Imprisonment, it would follow as a necessary Consequence that, although the Adaptation of Prisons to the Wants of the new System would as regards several of them at first entail some considerable Expense, the future aggregate Charge of maintaining Prisoners would be diminished in proportion to the Restriction of the usual Period of Confinement; and if the Result of the whole should be a Diminution in the Number of Offences and of convicted Criminals, which it is the great Object of all Punishment to bring about, the Committee think that no primary Expense ought to be grudged, when Objects are at stake of no less vital Importance than the Attainment of new Securities for Life and Property against the Machinations of profligate and desperate Offenders, the Rescue of comparatively uncorrupted Minds from the further Contamination of hardened Guilt, and the Establishment of Moral and Religious Feelings in a Soil hitherto unpromising and almost universally unproductive.

All these Objects would be materially promoted if a Plan were adopted for the more speedily and frequently bringing Offenders to Trial, whereby not only would their Confinement before Trial be shortened, but Punishment in the Case of Conviction would more immediately follow the Commission of the Offence.

The Committee lay before the House the further Evidence they have taken, together with an Appendix to this their Second Report.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS,

APPOINTED

For the Purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon the present State of the several GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION in the Counties, Cities, and Corporate Towns within ENGLAND and WALES, upon the Rules and Discipline therein established with regard to the Treatment of unconvicted as well as convicted Persons, and also whether the Sentences under which convicted Prisoners are confined are or can be therein properly or efficiently carried into execution; and further to report whether any and what Alterations appear to be necessary in the Laws now in force for the Government and Regulation or in the Construction of such Gaols and Houses of Correction, in order to insure an Uniformity of Discipline throughout the whole, as well as the proper and efficient Execution of such Sentences; and to whom Leave was also given to report from Time to Time to the House.

PART II.

Ordered to be printed 31st March 1835.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Die Veneris, 15° Maii 1835.

Thomas Dexter - - - - - - p. 317

Die Martis, 19° Maii 1835.

John H. Capper, Esquire - - - - - p. 325

Die Veneris, 22° Maii 1835.

Mrs. Elizabeth Fry - - - - - p. 327
Mrs. Elizabeth Pryer - - - - *ib.*
Mrs. Jane Pirie - - - - - - *ib.*
Miss Catherine Frazer - - - - - *ib.*
Samuel March Phillipps, Esquire - - - p. 343
Colonel Thomas Chaloner B. Challoner - - - p. 345

Die Mercurii, 27° Maii 1835.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland - - - - p. 351
James Loch, Esquire, M. P. - - - - p. 354
The Right Hon. Sir William Rae, Bart., M. P. - - p. 358
Mr. William Keene - - - - - p. 362

Die Lunæ, 1° Junii 1835.

Mr. Thomas Clarkson Neal - - - - p. 367
The Reverend William Quarterman - - - *ib.*
John Henry Nairn - - - - - p. 369

Die Sabbati, 6° Junii 1835.

The Right Hon. Lord Godolphin - - - p. 373
Mr. Gilbert Mackmurdo - - - - - p. 378
Mr. Henry Wakefield - - - - - p. 382

Die Jovis, 25° Junii 1835.

Mr. Gilbert Mackmurdo - - - - - p. 387
Colonel Graydon - - - - - - p. 388

Die Lunæ, 29° Junii 1835.

John Pike - - - - - - p. 391
William Augustus Miles, Esquire - - - p. 393

Die Veneris, 15° *Maii* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

THOMAS DEXTER is called in, and examined as follows:

You were born at Kettering in Northamptonshire?
I was.

Did you lose your Parents when you were young?
I did.

Who took care of you?
My Grandfather.

Did you reside with him, with the Exception of a few Months, 'till the Month of June 1822?
I did

In consequence of some Family Differences, did you go to Wellingborough in Northamptonshire?
Yes.

Did you there enter into a Contract with a Man to teach you the Trade of Shoemaking?
I did.

Did you find that you could not get a Livelihood at that Trade?
Yes.

Did you open an Evening School?
I did.

Did you keep it 'till the Year 1824?
Yes.

Did you then proceed to sell Shoes by Commission in London?
I did.

You had at that Time a Wife and One Child?
Yes.

Did the Business answer your Expectation?
It did not.

Did you then act as a Porter?
I did.

Under Circumstances of Distress, did you then steal a Pair of Shoes of the Value of 3*s*.?
I did, in the Month of May 1828.

And for that Offence you were convicted at the Old Bailey in the following Session, and sentenced to Seven Years Transportation?
I was.

To what Prison were you committed when you were taken up for this Offence?
From Worship Street I went to Newgate.

In what Ward were you placed in Newgate before Trial?
In the Middle Yard; I think the Ward was 17.

At that Time, what was the Conversation and the Language of the Prisoners in that Yard?
Those who had been known as having been Thieves, generally speaking, for some

Thomas Dexter.

some Time past, got by far better Treatment among their Fellow Prisoners than those who had been committed for a first Offence; the chief Conversation related to what they had been used to formerly.

To their old Practices?
Exactly so.

Was the Language bad?
Very bad.

How many Persons were there in the Middle Yard?
In the Middle Yard about Fifty, but in the Ward in which I was placed the Number was about Twenty-three.

Did you all sleep upon Mats?
Yes.

Very close together?
Very close together. And here I would mention a Circumstance that took place the first Night I went to Newgate; not being in the habit of being amongst such People, it was very strange, and I overheard a Plan laid to see if I had got any Money about me; however, I thought I would be aware of them; I sat upright in Bed with a Broom which I had managed to conceal under the Rug, and upon their coming, according to my previously concerted Plan, I threw the Broom down with such Force as to strike One of them upon the Nose, and I was not molested any more that Evening.

Did they attempt any thing again that Night?
To other Persons, but not to me. Generally, if any thing of that Sort took place, if a Report was made to the Governor the Property was invariably produced again, but in perhaps Four Cases out of Five no Complaint was made upon the Subject.

For Fear of being ill-used?
Yes.

Did the Wardsman wake upon your hitting this Man?
He called out, "What is the Matter?" but I thought it most prudent to hold my Tongue, and there was no Reply; he was not gone to sleep.

Did you hear many Complaints of Prisoners having been robbed while you were there?
Several of trifling Things; such as a Pocket Handkerchief, and perhaps Two or Three Halfpence.

Were you allowed to purchase Beer in the Yard?
Yes.

How much a Day?
I never knew any Limit; as much as you could obtain Money for.

Did you ever purchase Five or Six Pints?
I never did myself, but I have known several purchase as much as Eight Pints; and it was a common Thing to fill Two or Three Buckets, and carry them up into the Ward, that it might be drunk after the Place was locked up at Night; that was under the Care of the Wardsman.

Then there was a sort of a drinking Bout?
Yes.

Did the Wardsman go Shares?
Of course. Always, the Night previous to the Sessions commencing, it was the Rule, and had been for Years, as I was informed, to have what is called a Free and Easy, when any Person that would not sing was compelled to undergo some little Punishment.

Did they sing obscene Songs?
Sometimes.

Did you ever know a Turnkey visit the Ward at Night?
Not after locking up.

Thomas Dexter.

Do the Turnkeys unlock in the Morning?
No; I believe that Duty was left to a Prisoner who acted as Yardsman to the Wards generally; he had free Access to all the different Yards.

Was he a convicted Prisoner?
He was; his Name was Bishop.

Was he inner Gate Keeper?
He was.

From what you saw while you were in Newgate before Trial do you think a Man had much Chance of coming out better than when committed?
Certainly not.

You think he would most probably come out worse?
Yes, much worse.

Were there Men there for all Sorts of Crimes?
Yes; there was a Man for Manslaughter in the same Ward in which I was.

Did you before Trial ever see the Chaplain of Newgate?
Only in the Chapel.

Did he ever send for you into the Office of the Governor and speak to you?
Never.

Were there any Religious Books in the Ward?
A Bible and Prayer-book.

Were they much defaced?
I do not think they were opened above once or twice while I was there.

After your Conviction were you removed back again into the same Ward?
No; I went into the Infirmary, and I was very ill, and was in the Infirmary for Two or Three Days.

In the Infirmary at Newgate, you being under Sentence of Transportation, did you associate with Persons that had not been tried?
Two; there were but Three Patients in the Infirmary, Two of whom were untried.

Did you remain in the Infirmary until you were removed to Chatham?
Only for Three or Four Days.

Where were you then placed?
In the Transport Yard on the North Side of the Prison.

How many Persons were in the same Yard with you there?
I think the Number was somewhere between Sixty and Seventy; there were Four different Wards all convicted.

Were you after Trial permitted to purchase as much Beer as you thought fit?
Under precisely the same Regulations as before Trial.

You might buy any thing you pleased?
With the Exception of raw Meat and spirituous Liquors.

Were you permitted to smoke both before and after Trial?
Yes.

Did you ever purchase any thing from a Wardsman?
Never, except it was Beer.

He got it from the Beer Man, and handed it in?
Yes; sometimes at Night a Wardsman would get a Pailful of Beer in, and retail it out at Night after the Ward was locked up.

Did you ever buy any Bread?
Never.

From whom did they get their Tobacco and Pipes?
It was bought from a Chandler's Shop Keeper that called.

Thomas Dexter.

Who was the Governor at that Time?
Mr. Wontner.

During the Period you were in the Infirmary did you see the Chaplain?
Never.

Did you afterwards when you were upon the Transport Side?
Once he came up to give me an Order to repair a Pair of Shoes for him. Mr. Wontner gave me Permission to have my Tools in the Day after I was removed from the Infirmary, and I worked in the Prison.

Who was the Chaplain?
Mr. Cotton.

He did not speak to you upon Religious Subjects?
No; nothing else than merely how my Wife was getting on, as I had spoken to Mr. Wontner, saying how very much distressed they were, and he kindly allowed me to have my Tools in to work; and I presume that Mr. Wontner had communicated that Circumstance to him.

The Chaplain gave you the Order from Motives of Humanity to you and to your Family?
Yes.

Was the Conversation in the Transport Yard bad?
At Times very much so.

Did they pay much more Attention to Religion than in the Middle Yard?
Shortly after my Trial there was a Recorder's Report made, and the Prisoners that were reprieved were brought into that Ward, and from that Time there was a marked Improvement; they seemed to be under Religious Impressions on coming from the Cells, and they checked any Conversation of a loose and obscene Nature that might be entered into by the other Prisoners.

Do you mean before or after they were reprieved?
After they were reprieved.

It was entirely their own Act, and not the Chaplain's?
Entirely their own Act.

Do you know whether the Chaplain visited them?
Yes; in the Cells Mr. Cotton and Mr. Baker visited them, and Mr. Baker visited them Three or Four Times a Week on the Transport Side.

Who is Mr. Baker?
A Gentleman connected with the Ordnance Department in the Tower, who has been for several Years in the habit of attending the Prisoners.

Is he a Clergyman?
No, he is not a Clergyman.

Were you not removed to the Dolphin Hulk on the 21st of July, at Chatham?
I was.

Were you removed with many others?
Yes; Twenty-five.

The Night before was there a Scene of Riot and Revelry in the Yard?
No; nothing 'till the Period of locking up at Night; then the Names were called over, and Information was given that they were to hold themselves in Readiness to go to Chatham the next Morning; and then, upon the Turnkey closing the Door, every one was anxious to obtain a Sheet of Paper to inform his Friends, and then there was no Riot and Confusion, but more Quiet than another Night, on that Account.

Did they all go willingly in the Morning?
I should say so.

Did they dread Transportation?
I do not think one of them dreaded it; they all seemed anxious to get away, except Two that had been transported before, and they told them that they were going to a worse Place,—that they would go farther and fare worse, but that was the only Observation made.

509
1

Thomas Dexter.

Did you dread very much being transported?
I dreaded it much, on account of being removed from my Family; my Wife had only lain in for the Third Time a Fortnight before, and the Two Children, that were with me,—one died on Friday and one the Saturday Morning, and my Wife was subject to much Persecution upon it, from an Idea that they had caught some Distemper in the Prison, and Mr. Wontner gave a Certificate that there was no Distemper in the Prison.

Were you then removed to the Dolphin Hulk, and stationed as a Laborer in the Dock Yard to work at cleaning out the Ships?
Yes, that was the common Work to which the Transports are put.

Did you remain at that Work 'till the 24th of September?
Yes.

Was it Mud Work?
Some Portion of it; I was Three Days at navigating, but upon those Days there was a Quart of Ale and a Penny Loaf allowed extra, and an extra Sixpence a Week allowed in the Shape of Pay.

Were you then removed to the Canada Hospital Hulk to work at Shoemaking?
Yes.

Were you removed to that Hulk on account of your Health, or because you were a Shoemaker?
Because I was a Shoemaker.

How many Shoemakers were there on board the Hulk at the Time?
I think Eight is the Number.

Was the Language in the Dolphin Hulk much better than what you had heard at Newgate?
Not at all, unless it was in the Presence of the Guard, but when the Prisoners were by themselves I should say the Language was quite as bad as at Newgate.

You do not think a Man would learn much Good in the Hulks?
I am sure he could not, among his Fellow Prisoners.

Did the Chaplain attend you there?
He came to the Chapel on Thursday Evenings, and he came once on the Sabbath.

Were you ever examined before a Committee of Parliament before?
No, I was never examined; I had to send in a Statement to the Committee upon the Metropolis.

Did you continue to work there 'till February 1831?
I did; not to work on board the same Ship, for in the Month of December 1830 the Shoemakers were removed over to the Cumberland Hulk, and I was removed with them.

Were you then appointed Nurse in the Juvenile Convict Hospital?
Yes.

Did that Situation give you an Opportunity of seeing a great many of the Boys that came from the Euryalus Hulk?
It did.

Do you think that those Boys were reformed by the Punishment they had undergone?
I should most certainly say not; and frequently when I have seen it in a Newspaper that a Judge has sentenced a Boy out of Mercy to him to the Hulks, I have made the Observation that was it a Child of mine I would rather see him dead at my Feet than see him sent to that Place.

You conceive that they come out of the Hulks much worse than they go in?
I do.

When those Boys were ill in the Convict Hospital, did you see any Signs of their being sensible of the Offences which they had committed?
In very few Instances.

Thomas Dexter.

Did the Chaplain daily attend the Boys in the Convict Hospital?
Not daily; upon an Average Four Times a Week.

Did he speak to the Boys?
Always. He used to ask me to point out the particular Cases; he would first address the Boys generally, and would kneel down to Prayers; he would then deliver a short Address to them, and then go to the Beds that contained the most serious Cases, and perhaps remain from Ten Minutes to a Quarter of an Hour.

Did many of them die while you were in that Hospital?
Many.

Do you think they died with Feelings of Penitence for the Offences they had committed?
There were One or Two Instances.

What was the oldest Boy that you recollect in that Hospital?
Seventeen.

And the youngest?
Six Years and Seven Months.

Do you know what he was convicted of?
I understood for some Robbery at Birmingham, from the Warwick Assizes; and the Judge asked his Mother would she take him Home again provided a lenient Sentence was passed, and she refused to do it; he was consequently sentenced to Transportation, that he might be taken care of; that was the general Report.

Was that Boy reformed?
He died very shortly after he came in; and he was so young that he had hardly any Religious or Moral Impression upon his Mind.

Did you remain there 'till you received His Majesty's Pardon on the 18th of May 1833?
Yes.

How did you procure your Pardon
From my Conduct during my Imprisonment.

Was that a common Thing?
Yes. In fact I was there longer than the usual Time, but I used to keep the Accounts of the Hospital, and Mr. Hope was anxious to keep me there 'till he could get another Person there to supply my Place; at least that is the Impression upon my Mind.

Did he pay you any thing for those Duties?
Nothing.

Did he agree to give you any thing when you were released?
No. It is generally supposed that the head Nurse should have the Management of the Accounts of the Hospital.

As you were kept a longer Time than you expected to be, had you any thing given you to make you Amends?
Nothing at all.

What is your Opinion of the Effect of the Pardons, when those Persons knew that they were to be pardoned nearly as a Matter of Course; do you think that they have made up their Minds to reform, or that they intended to return to their former bad Courses?
It was not the invariable Practice to give them their Pardons at a certain Time; it was only those whose Conduct had been such as to merit the Approbation of the Officers; and those that had been formerly convicted were well aware of it, and they would behave themselves well while in the Presence of an Officer, but in Nine Cases out of Ten, while the Officers Backs were turned, they were the most uproarious Persons in the Hulks. I have known it to be the Case, that by putting a Sovereign in the Hand of the Captain's Clerk the Name has been put down in the List sent to the Secretary of State, and the Prisoner has got away One Quarter of a Year sooner than he would have done

Thomas Dexter.

if the List had gone on in the usual Course; that I can speak to positively; that was in the early Part of my Imprisonment; I have known it to be done in more than One Instance: it was different from that before I came away.

Did the Prisoners at work in the Dock Yard steal the Stores in the Dock Yard?

It was frequently the Case.

Were there any Prisoners appointed with Authority over the others?

Those that were called Gangsmen.

Did the Gangsmen show much Favor and Partiality to Prisoners?

I was so short a Time in the Dock Yard that I cannot speak from my own personal Knowledge; it was the Rule to wear the Irons Three Months before you could be recommended to anything whatever, but owing to their being in want of Shoemaking Labourers I was removed in Eight Weeks.

Was the Offence of which you were convicted stealing Shoes from your Employer?

No; from a Pawnbroker's Shop.

From what you saw of Newgate before Trial and after Trial, and from what you saw of the Hulks, and of the Hospital of the Juvenile Hulk, you did not think that any Part of the Discipline was such as was likely to make a Man or a Boy become a better Member of Society?

With the Exception of the Treatment in the Juvenile Hospital Hulk; there the Treatment was remarkably correct. Mr. Hope, the Surgeon of the Euryalus, is a Religious Man, and the Chaplain also was very attentive to his Duties, and while they were in the Hospital their Behaviour was much more correct than when they were on board their own Ship. I had an Opportunity of seeing their Conduct at the Euryalus, and I should say that from their Imprisonment they must come out much worse than when they went to it.

Do you think they dreaded Imprisonment much?

No; it was the Dread of the Ill-treatment of one Boy to another; there are what they call Nobs, perhaps little Boys that were not higher than the Table. I have seen them myself take a Broomstick and strike a Boy over the Arm, almost to break his Arm, and the other dare not say a single Word to him.

Why not?

The Nobs have got such an Ascendancy, and they were so liked by the Majority of the Boys, that anybody that dared to say a Word against them was sure to be pitched upon by all Hands; and I have known it when Three or Four have been obliged to be locked up in a Cell by themselves, in order to shelter them from Murder,—that they would call Noseys, that is, those whom they considered had been to the Officers to tell them any thing that was going on; those were particularly pointed out by the Majority of Prisoners on whom to wreak their Vengeance.

Did the Chaplain attend the Hospital of the Euryalus?

Yes; a Chaplain attended Four Times a Week upon the Average.

How many Boys were usually in the Hospital?

It was quite uncertain; sometimes not more than Seven or Eight, and sometimes Forty or Fifty.

When they were in the Hospital did the Chaplain pay them any particular Attention?

Very great Attention. I have known the Boys take an old Copper Button and apply it hot to the Skin, and then apply Soap and Rum to a Sore occasioned by a hot Button, and wrap it up for Two or Three Days, and then show that Wound to the Doctor, and then come to the Hospital in a State piteous to behold; and it would look like a Sore; and sometimes the settling of those Cases gave me more Trouble than any others. I have known several Cases in which they have broken their Arms to get into the Hospital; they held their Arms upon a Form, and let the Edge of the Table drop upon them to break them in two. They would get other Boys to do it for them, and then the Excuse was, that they had tumbled down the Ladder.

Thomas Dexter.

Do you mean to say that they meant to break their Arms?

They meant to break their Arms. I have had Patients come into the Hospital who have declared that they have not tasted Meat for Three Weeks together, but they have been obliged to give their Portions to those Nobs, and they have been fed themselves upon Gruel and the Parings of Potatoes; and they have committed those Acts that they might get into the Hospital in order to have a regular Diet.

Do you ever remember a Boy breaking his Arm a Second Time in order to get into the Hospital?

No; they were always tired of it the First Time.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Tuesday next, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Martis, 19° *Maii* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

JOHN H. CAPPER Esquire is called in, and further examined as follows:

Are you aware whether any Steps have been taken, in consequence of the Recommendation of the Committee of the House of Commons which sat in the Year 1832 upon Secondary Punishments, respecting Dartmoor Prison?

No further than procuring a Survey and Estimate. Mr. Goulburn, when Secretary of State, made a Communication to the Penitentiary, to ascertain whether they could enter upon the System of Discipline recommended in Mr. Crawford's Report; an Answer has recently been returned, in which some Objections have been made by the Committee of Management. The Secretary of State deemed this Course advisable before entering into a large Expenditure upon Dartmoor.

You are aware that a Sum of Money was voted last Year by Parliament on account of Dartmoor?

£7,000.

Has that Money been expended?

No.

Are you aware whether any Estimate has been made in pursuance of the Recommendation of the Secondary Punishment Committee?

Yes, and those Documents are in the Home Department, prepared by Mr. Taylor, the Architect of the Admiralty.

Can you produce those Documents to the Committee?

Certainly, I will do so.

Did the former Secretary of State take the Subject into consideration?

He did.

Has it ever been proposed to remove the Penitentiary from Milbank to Dartmoor?

Not that I am aware. The latter Prison was proposed to be a distinct Place of Punishment, in order to carry into effect the Suggestions recommended in the Report of the Commissioner who went to America to examine into the State of Prison Discipline in the United States.

Do you think there would be any Inconvenience in removing the Penitentiary from Milbank to Dartmoor?

I think it would require a considerable Sum of Money to put Dartmoor into a proper State, to the full Extent of holding the Number that is in the Penitentiary at present, and would require considerable Time.

What is the Distribution of the Offices in the Secretary of State's Department with respect to the Criminal Branch; into what Sub-departments are they divided?

As far as regards the Charge of the Petitions to the Crown for Mercy, and in Matters relating to Criminals in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land and the Hulks, is in my Department; there is also a Keeper of the Criminal Register; the Returns under the Gaol Act I have nothing to do with.

In whose Department are they?

They are under the Secretary of State's Direction, but they are merely received at the Office, and laid before Parliament, as required by the Act.

J. H Capper, Esq.

Do you conceive that it would be expedient that there should be one Sub-department in the Home Office through which every thing relating to Prisons, to the Hulks, to New South Wales and to Van Diemen's Land, should pass?
It would be very desirable.

Do you think there would be any Difficulty in forming such a Department without an Increase of Officers?
I should think not; at least the Increase would be moderate.

Would you propose to have One Gentleman at the Head of the Department, with a proper Number of Clerks, who should receive the Returns and all Communications respecting the Prisons and Prisoners, and that it should be his Duty to communicate those to the Secretary of State or to the Under Secretary?
Certainly.

Would not such an Arrangement facilitate the Public Business, and at the same Time secure a proper Attention being paid to the Returns, and to the Reports of Inspectors of Prisons, if Inspectors are appointed?
Such a Measure would certainly facilitate the Public Business, as the Responsibility would be with One Person.

The Committee on Secondary Punishments also suggested the Propriety of causing Returns to be prepared and laid before Parliament of all the Prisons throughout the United Kingdom, stating the Alterations and Additions necessary to provide for the complete Separation of the Prisoners to be confined in them, and the probable Expense of such Alterations. Has that Return been procured?
No.

Do you think it would cost more than £100,000 to convert Dartmoor into a Penitentiary fit to contain the Prisoners now in the Milbank Penitentiary?
I should think much less than that Sum. A great Part might be done by the Prisoners, provided their Sentence was allotted to work at labour without the Buildings, where it is chiefly Granite, extending over the whole Property, about 400 Acres, which can furnish Materials for the Buildings, and erecting an extensive Wall, but the Prison itself is in a very dilapidated State.

For how many Prisoners was the Estimate of Dartmoor?
I think altogether it is calculated to contain, in separate Cells, about 600, but in the first instance only to try about 120 as an Experiment.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Friday next,
One o'Clock.

Die Veneris, 22° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Evidence on Gaols.

Mrs. E. Fry,
Mrs. E. Pryer,
Mrs. J. Pirie,
and
Miss C. Frazer.

Mrs. ELIZABETH FRY, Mrs. ELIZABETH PRYER, Mrs. JANE PIRIE, and Miss CATHERINE FRAZER are called in, and examined as follows:

(*To Mrs. Fry.*)—The Committee will be happy to hear your Opinion upon the Subject of the Employment of Female Prisoners?

In the Employment of Women in Prisons it is rather a difficult Point to devise such Employments as are profitable for them, and yet suitable to their Sex; and, as a Committee of Ladies, we do not approve the Tread-mill for Women, and I believe it is unsuitable in all respects, nor is it at all likely to raise their Moral Standard, but rather to lower it, and we also think the Health of most Women likely to be injured by it; there may be a few strong hearty young Persons (not Mothers), but, generally speaking, we consider it by no means a safe or a suitable Punishment for Women.

Have you ever known an Instance where Health has been injured by it?

I lately visited One of our Country Prisons, and the Surgeon told me that he had the Direction of the Magistrates wholly to stop the Tread-wheel, because he considered that a Woman had particularly suffered from it.

Did you ever hear of a Case which occurred in Dorchester Gaol, of a Female Prisoner whose Health was very severely injured by her being made to work on the Tread-wheel?

It is Dorchester Gaol I refer to.

Are you not aware that in many County Prisons Females are not placed on the Tread-mills?

Quite aware; and I do not at this Time remember a County Prison where there is a Tread-wheel, except at Brixton and in Coldbath Fields, but I do not know in the Counties remote from London of there being one.

Do the rest of the Ladies agree in that Opinion?

Mrs. Pirie.—Perfectly.

Miss Frazer.—I have visited only Newgate constantly, therefore we are not so qualified to speak on any other Subjects as Mrs. Fry is, who has visited other Gaols.

Mrs. Fry.—There is a Wheel called a Crank-wheel, which I consider better suited for Women. I think very great Good results from their being occupied in Things suitable for their Sex; many Women come into Prison wholly unable to work at the Needle, and in giving a poor Woman a Knowledge how to cut out and make up Articles of Clothing she goes out better able to perform her domestic Duties; and there are several other Things of that Sort—teaching her to wash properly, and to iron and mend; all those Things help her after she quits the Gaol. It is rather difficult to find sufficient of those Employments, and I am quite of Opinion that there is no great Punishment in them.

Miss Frazer.—Any thing of that Sort would be particularly useful.

Mrs. Fry.—In picking Oakum they gain nothing, but it is better than not being employed.

Do you find them more apt to return again to the Prisons where they have been employed, or where no Employment has been given them?

As far as I have been able to learn, they are much more apt to return to

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

Gaols where they are not employed. I can speak to that Subject quite confidently; I remember the old Governor of Newgate, Mr. Newman, when we first introduced Employment for the Women (instead of their being in utter Idleness), said, that the Returns were materially diminished; I think he said he conceived he had One Third less of Women returned to Newgate, but that was merely a rough Guess.

Do you attribute that to their Dislike of Employment, or to their having been able when they went out of Prison to get an honest Livelihood?

I consider both that they may be better qualified to perform their Duties in Life and that the Employment rather adds to the Punishment.

What is your Opinion of Religious and other Instruction?

I am particularly glad to be questioned upon that Subject, because I think I can bear an unequivocal Testimony to the very great Advantage of Religious Instruction in Prisons. I think the general public Instruction of course should be given by the Ministers or the Chaplains of Gaols; and where, as in Ireland, there are generally a great Variety of Chaplains, Roman Catholics as well as Protestants and Presbyterians, I would have every thing appertaining to the peculiar Views of the Sects to which they belong inculcated by their respective Chaplains; but I wholly object to private Instruction to Women from any Minister whatever, unless there is some Person with him. I have known very serious Disadvantages arise from it; I think it right to state this.

Have you known practically that the Chaplains of Gaols have been willing to inculcate the Doctrines of different Religionists from their own?

Never. I do not speak on that Ground, but that in some Gaols (mentioning Ireland particularly) there is a Roman Catholic, a Protestant, and a Presbyterian Chaplain; there are these Three appointed in most of the Gaols in Ireland; I think each Chaplain should, according to his own View, inculcate his own Principles, because in Conscience he believes he is right; but the Point in which I particularly feel interested is, that I would not have private Instruction given by Gentlemen to Female Prisoners; and I am quite convinced that Instruction would be best received from their own Sex, but that their own Sex in going into those Prisons should never touch upon any peculiar Tenets, as that is the Minister's Business; they should proceed upon the most simple Christian Grounds, and endeavour to inculcate the general Doctrines and Precepts of the Gospel as contained in the Holy Scriptures, and simply keep to those Points; they then aid all the Ministers with their different People, and so they find it. In Newgate I have even known a Difficulty arise to get a Roman Catholic to come and visit one of his own People, because he trusted them to the Ladies; and we have lately had an Application from the Chaplain of a Gaol to go in, because he said, "This private Instruction is much better fitted to come from the Ladies than from myself; let them give that private close Instruction which alone can remedy the Evil;" but after all his Endeavours we were not permitted, but were stopped by the Committee.

You do not mean to go so far as to object to the Clergyman giving Instructions to a Woman, provided a Female Attendant accompanies him?

I quite approve of that, and I believe the Effect of Religious and other Instruction is hardly to be calculated on; and I may further say, that notwithstanding the high Estimation and Reverence in which I held the Holy Scriptures before I went to the Prison, as believing them to be written by Inspiration of God, and therefore calculated to produce the greatest Good, I have seen (in reading the Scriptures to those Women) such a Power attending them, and such an Effect on the Minds of the most reprobate, as I could not have conceived; and if any one wants a Confirmation of the Truth of Christianity, let him go and read the Scriptures in Prisons to poor Sinners; you there see how the Gospel is exactly adapted to the fallen Condition of Man; it has strongly confirmed my Faith, and I feel it the bounden Duty of the Government and the Country that those Truths should be administered to Sinners in the Manner most likely to conduce to the real Reformation of the Prisoner; you then go to the Root of the Matter; and though severe Punishment may in a measure deter them from committing Crimes, it does not amend the Character and change the Heart; but if you have really altered the Principles of the Individuals, they go out not only deterred from committing Crimes because of the Fear of Punishment, but they

677

Mrs. E. Fry,
Mrs. E. Pryer,
Mrs. J. Pirie,
and
Miss C. Frazer.

go out and set a bright Example. You may say, that their Light so shines before Men that they are enabled to "glorify their Father which is in Heaven." I am not speaking this lightly, but after an Experience of Eighteen Years, from a Wish that every one might know the Result of my Experience, and that I shall do all in my Power to encourage the proper Religious Instruction of all the Prisoners who come into the Prisons of our Country. It is surprising to see how tractable they are, how tender-spirited they are, how kind to some of us who go in our simple Way to instruct them. The Manner in which they receive us, the Gratitude they show, the Love they have for us is such that I feel sometimes quite refreshed, from the Kindness and the general good Feeling and good Understanding we have amongst them. It produces that Christian Kindness and Christian Principle which is a most powerful Agent, although not enough brought into Practice. But on the Subject of Instruction, I have to mention somewhat respecting our Prisons generally. I observe, in visiting a good many of our County Gaols in England and Wales, that Instruction generally is not properly attended to, and that the Regulations in the late Act of George the Fourth are not generally attended to, as it respects Instruction; there are some Exceptions to the Rule; but I believe that if the Prisoners spent more Time in being taught to read, and their Understandings cultivated a little, as well as their Religious Principles strengthened, very great Good would result; and that it is far too much neglected generally in this Country. The Chaplains have their Service in the Morning, which I hope is profitable to the Prisoners; they hear a Portion of Scripture, and I trust they feel it a Religious Opportunity; but I am quite convinced much more is wanted, and I am obliged to allude to Ireland, because I have seen such Advantages result from it. They are far more particular in Ireland; the Government Inspectors will see it done, and it must be done; and there is a certain Portion of Time devoted to the School, and it is a pleasant Thing to go into these Schools to see the Order and Attention, and the Interest shown by the Prisoners; and I have no Doubt the Government Inspectors would say, it is of the utmost Advantage. I hope this will be impressed, and that it will be enjoined that they are properly instructed; I think it would have a most excellent Effect.

Miss Frazer.—Even for a short Time, I feel that it is better.

Mrs. Fry.—We find a great Advantage in the Convict Ships from Instruction. I think we had one not long ago, where Thirty or Forty Women had been taught to read during the Voyage, thereby partially reclaiming them. If I go on to speak of the Want of Instruction in our Town, Borough, and Debtors Gaols, if I say it is most deplorable, I do not say at all too much; I must mention Names. I visited a Prison in Plymouth the other Day; I found that neither Men nor Women had any Religious Service, or any Instruction of any Kind whatever, excepting as a valuable Gentleman chose occasionally to visit and read to them, and now and then the Ladies had done it, but not lately, for the Prison was so bad some of the Ladies were afraid of going in.

Is there a Chaplain attached to that Prison?

No, none whatever.

It is not a County Gaol?

No; but it is one of the worst Gaols I have visited for some Time. It is in the Middle of the Town, without any Airing-court for the poor Men of any Description, either Debtors or Felons, and Felons and Misdemeanants, tried and untried, are all together in One Apartment, and their Bed-room was next to it, a most deplorable Place. They lived in One Apartment, and a very small one; there were Eight Persons, and the Contamination must be dreadful, religiously and morally; not only so, but for their Health also. It was so offensive, that, though accustomed to Prisons, I hardly knew how to remain there. Under that Room was the Debtors Room, and they had no Airing-court, and perhaps confined for Months in that Room; even for a small Debt of Five Pounds a Man is confined in the lowest Company, in a deplorable Place, so offensive it is quite disagreeable to be there. I found a Lieutenant in the Navy confined in the Place a few Weeks ago; however, I made a Representation to the Magistrates, and it was put in the public Papers. They said they were earnest to make the Alterations required, but they had laid out so much in a Theatre and a great Hotel that they were not able to do it

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

at present; but they had a small Fund they were getting together, and had Hopes that it would be accomplished in the Course of Time.

Do you think that it is advisable that a convicted Prisoner should be employed as a Schoolmaster?

Miss Frazer.—I think it might occur that a Person well qualified might be appointed.

Mrs Pirie.—Really, I think so.

Mrs. Pryer.—I have seen an Instance of that some Years ago.

Mrs. Fry.—We had a Prisoner, whom we first placed over our young Children and Girls, in Newgate; she remained in that Situation for a Year; she had been one of the worst Characters in the Prison before we employed her thus, and she became so changed a Person that I believe in every respect she became really a good Woman. She was a Drunkard, a Woman of the lowest Description, and had been of the worst Habits; but she became steady, sober, and industrious as she could be, and I believe she not only led a good Life, but died a most satisfactory Death.

What was her Age?

I should think from Thirty to Thirty-five.

Did you know what became of her after she left the Prison?

Yes, we did not lose Sight of her; she died in an Hospital.

You were able to trace her Conduct from the Time she left the Prison to the Time of her Death?

We were.

Do you not think it is very desirable that the Persons who are to be taught should entertain Respect for their Instructor?

Yes; but it rather strikes me I would have a Monitor to teach them, under the Superintendence of the Schoolmaster or Schoolmistress; then they would have a Respect for the Schoolmaster or Schoolmistress. We have Monitors to assist in teaching in Newgate; but then they always looked up to us, or I think they would not have sufficient Weight unless there was a superior Authority to look to.

The Question referred to the Schoolmaster?

I think in Ireland in general they are not Prisoners.

The Schoolmaster in Newgate at present is a Prisoner?

Yes, he is.

Though there may be some Instances of such Reformation as that you have just related, is it not your decided Opinion that a creditable Person, not a Prisoner, would be infinitely preferable for the Situation of Schoolmaster?

I agree in that.

Mrs. Pirie.—Decidedly.

Mrs. Fry.—I omitted to mention One Thing which we have found advantageous in Newgate; that is, the teaching the Prisoners in Classes. Catherine Frazer might give an Account of that, being engaged in it.

Miss Frazer.—" It is proposed that a Sub-Committee be formed, to consist of Ten or more Members; and that a Secretary be appointed, by whom the Proceedings of the Committee shall be from Time to Time reported to the Newgate Association. That the Prisoners in the several Wards being classed, Two or more Visitors shall be appointed to each Ward, who shall take charge of a Portion of the Prisoners, so as to be enabled to give a Weekly Report of their Conduct, as well as to form some Opinion of their Qualification for any Office on board the Convict Ships, in the Event of their being transported. The Ladies on this Committee will undertake to visit the Prisoners in their respective Wards as often in each Week as they can make it convenient. The Mode of Instruction to be pursued must in a Degree be left to their own Judgment; at the same Time Uniformity in the Plans adopted is so desirable that the following Outline is submitted, leaving each Lady to fill it up as her own Views and Experience may direct. It is presumed that every one will enter upon this Work feeling its Importance and the Responsibility which it involves; this Consideration will produce a Consciousness of Insufficiency in themselves, and will lead them to look up for Help to Him who hath so often chosen the weak

519

Things of the World to accomplish His own Purposes of Love and Mercy, to lead their Fellow Sinners to embrace the Hope set before them in the Gospel; to win Souls to Christ is the principal Object to be kept in view. The prayerful Reading of the Holy Scriptures will suggest itself to every Mind as the most efficient Means they can use; but together with this it may be well to endeavour to interest the poor Women by Conversation, by Questions, and by short Narratives, such as the Publications of the Tract Societies will furnish. They may also be encouraged to commit to Memory some Passages of Scripture, or Hymns selected by the Visitor. The main Point is to engage their Attention, and, if possible, lead them to value the Instruction afforded as a Privilege. As there appears to be no Necessity for confining the Visitors to particular Days in the Week, the only Rules to be observed, as regards the Time of visiting, will be, that the Hours do not interfere with those in which the Women attend in the Chapel, or are assembled for the reading of the Scriptures in the Committee-room; the Dinner Hour must also be considered; so that the Afternoon between the Hours of Two and Four will probably be found the most eligible; and it may be well to make a general Rule, of course subject to Exceptions to suit particular Cases, that the Ladies should not occupy the Women for more than an Hour at one Time."

Mrs. E. Fry,
Mrs. E. Pryer,
Mrs. J. Pirie,
and
Miss C. Frazer.

Mrs. Fry.—We might add to this, that the Ladies are very particular never to interfere in any respect with the Chaplains of the Gaols. One of the Classes of those Women, on leaving the Gaol to go to New South Wales, wrote thus: "The humble Request of Sarah Bailey's Ward. We do humbly request we may be together on board the Ship, and do humbly pray we may be permitted to read together, as we have been accustomed to do in the Ward; and likewise return our most humble Thanks to the Ladies," giving their Names, showing that they derived some Benefit from it, or they would not wish to continue the same Practice.

Mrs. Pryer.—They were most anxious in their Desire to be confined to themselves, which was granted, so far as the Accommodation of the Ship would admit.

How long had those Prisoners been together in the Ward?

Miss Frazer.—Three Months, I think; they all conducted themselves remarkably well.

Mrs. Fry.—I took the Liberty of proposing to the Magistrates lately in visiting a Prison where they received no Instruction except the attending the Chapel in the Morning, that they should have a Person to go from Class to Class, which would take them the whole Morning; if he gave an Hour to each Class it would break off a little the Time from the Tread-wheel; and, I believe, tend to the Health both of the Body and Mind of the Prisoners. Something of that Kind is adopted in the Bridewell of Glasgow. There is a very valuable Woman, a clever and experienced Person, who goes from Cell to Cell, because they are not allowed to associate in Glasgow for any Act, even for Worship, giving them Instruction, teaching them to read, and endeavouring to inculcate the best Principles.

Are there not a great many Prisons in this Country where no Chaplains have been appointed?

It is rather difficult to say; because, though I have visited, I believe, by far the larger Portion of the Gaols in this Country, it has been during a Course of many Years, and as so many Improvements have taken place I trust there are very few County Gaols without Chaplains now, though they have mostly some other Service which fills up a Part of their Time; and I think the Chaplains ought to be occupied the whole of their Time in the Prisons.

You are not aware there is no Chaplain at the present Moment to any House of Correction in Northumberland, with the Exception of the Prison at Morpeth?

No.

You are not aware that there is no Chaplain at present to the Portsmouth Prison, and that one has never been appointed?

No, I am not; the only Gaol I visited in Northumberland lately was at Newcastle; I am not sure whether there was a Chaplain or not.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

Do you not think it advisable in a Gaol containing from Twenty to Thirty Prisoners there should be a Chaplain who should devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of the Prison?

Mrs. Pirie.—That is my Opinion, that it should not be confined to the Sunday, but the Duties of each Day.

Mrs. Fry.—I would wish to say a Word on the Appointment of a Chaplain. If he is a really sober-minded Religious Man, a true Christian, he may do Wonders in a Gaol; but if he be really a Man living in the Spirit of the World I apprehend he does very little Good in the Gaol. Though in reading the Scriptures and so forth, no Doubt he will introduce Religious Truth but so much depends upon the Spirit in which the Thing is done, whether his Heart is in it. A Prisoner came to me once on board Ship, and said "It is a hard Case here; there are poor Women coming from other Prisons who have had such Advantage over us; there have been Ladies teaching them." I said, "That is not right; you have Chaplains, and you have your Service to go to." They have said, "Oh, Ma'am, it is only doing that they are paid for." I do not mean to say that many who are paid do not do it with their Hearts, but it cannot be much more important any where to have valuable devoted Christians than in Prisons; they ought to be Men of Principle, and some Talent too.

The Chaplain to Newgate is so infirm as not now to be able to visit the Prisoners in their Cells or in Classes, is he not?

Mrs. Pirie.—He does not visit them.

Do you ever visit Giltspur Street Compter?

I have been there.

Does the Chaplain visit the Prisoners there?

Mrs. Pryer.—I think I have heard some of the Ladies speak very highly of the Chaplain there.

Mrs. Fry.—He is a very excellent Man, I believe.

Do you find that they are willing to receive Religious Instruction soon after they are committed to Prison?

Immediately; I never knew them unwilling to receive Religious Instruction, except in the Case of a Jewess.

Miss Frazer.—I think there are some of them desirous at first of staying away; we find a great Difference after they have been there a short Time.

Mrs. Fry.—I am careful in our Readings to have a Regard to the Feelings of the Women.

What was the Nature of the Objection on the Part of the Jewess?

On account of our reading the New Testament. Afterwards she came, and we endeavoured to adapt the reading a little to her, by reading the Psalms and a Portion of the Old Testament.

You have stated you are of opinion there should be Female Officers; what do you consider to be their Duties?

They superintend the Instruction of the Female Prisoners. It has been a Subject of very serious Regret with me since our Wishes were complied with, of having Female Officers appointed in County Gaols to superintend the Women, to find what very poor Sort of Matrons they frequently have. I visited a Prison not very long ago in Wales, and I saw a good many Women; I inquired where the Matron was; they said, "The Matron is here, a little Girl of Sixteen." This little Girl of Sixteen had the Care of all these Women, some of them very bad Characters; I found she was the Gaoler's Daughter, on Inquiry, and that the Magistrate had adopted the System of the Gaoler's being allowed so much a Year to pay any Officers, and I think also to feed the Prisoners, so that they are what is called farmed out. It appeared a very simple Plan to put his Daughter in the Situation of Matron, but it was a likely Means to destroy the Morals of the Daughter. I find in some of the Prisons the Matrons live out of the Gaol, and attend only a certain Number of Hours to give the poor Women some Assistance; whereas some of the Women are superior to themselves in point of Power and Talent, so that they have scarcely any Influence over them. Much depends upon the proper Appointment of the Matrons and

Female

Female Turnkeys; it requires a very judicious Choice; and though I would not take too much to our Sex, I think it would be advantageous if the Magistrates would now and then consult the Ladies about it; they are in the habit of hiring Female Servants, and I think that their Knowledge of their Character would be useful.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

You are aware that the Gaol Act is imperative that the Matron shall reside within the Prison?
I believe it is.

But that Provision, like many other Enactments in the Gaol Act, is not obeyed?
They are most deficient in many Prisons,—grievously so; but as I enlarged upon that in my Evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons it is not necessary that I should do it here.

Is it not often the Case that the Matron is only considered as a Person to take care of the Linen and Stores, without any View to Instruction?
It is rather too much the Case in some Instances; but that was not the original Intention, because the Reason of the Enactment was in consequence of the beneficial Result in Newgate; and our Wish is, that the Matron should superintend the Instruction, as well as the Employment of the Women, and take care of the Linen and other Things as well. There is One little Observation I would make; that in some Gaols the Gaolers Wives are very respectable Women, and I wish they had a little Authority in the Prison as respects the Women. I was with one lately; she seemed a very suitable Person; she said, "Madam, I long to go in to those Female Prisoners, but so strict are their Rules about Silence that when I wish to go and give them Advice about difficult Cases, and we have had some such in our Gaol, they will not allow me to go in." The Newgate Governor's Wife is invaluable to us; she is very clever and competent, and kind, and superintends most judiciously. We think a Matron should never be younger than Thirty Years of Age.

Do you not think it necessary that Matrons should be appointed to the Ships which convey Female Convicts to Australia?
Mrs. Fry.—Elizabeth Pryer has visited Sixty Convict Ships; she can speak best to that.
Mrs. Pryer.—I should think most of the Ladies on the Committee have looked thoroughly into that Subject, and they see several Impediments to it; but we think it highly desirable that a Lady of competent Talent and Religious Views should go out with each Ship, but there are so many Contingencies attending the Ladies going out in that Capacity, we have seen Difficulties. The last Ship I think but one that went out, a Missionary and his Wife were allowed to go out with them, and they have been spoken of very highly as regards their Services. I have a small Document here on that Subject.

The same is delivered in, and is read as follows:

"Extract of a Letter from Captain G. N. Livesay of the George Hibbert to the Owners of the Ship in London. Dated Sydney, 16th December 1834.

"I have been very highly favored in having an excellent Surgeon, and likewise a most excellent and worthy Man who has come over as a Baptist Missionary, Mr. John Saunders; he has proved a very great Acquisition; his kind Attentions to the unfortunate Criminals has been unceasing, and many of them I hope will retain the grateful Remembrance of his Kindness to them; some of them who when they came into the Ship could neither read nor write have left her well capable of doing both. His Wife, a most amiable young Woman, was also very attentive and kind to them. The whole of them will have to acknowledge to the End of their Days that the "George Hibbert" has been a comfortable Home to them; there were some few very bad Spirits among them, but I am happy to say they made but a small Part of the Whole."

Mrs. Fry.—This is the only one we have sent out as a Matron. The British Society aided in the Expense, and so did the Government; they allowed them the Food of the Ship.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

Did that Missionary and his Wife go out to settle there?
They did.

Mrs. Pryer.—There are some Fears of sending a Matron out; the prominent Difficulties we have had to look at have been their being confined in the Society of the Captain and the Surgeon, whose Characters are often unknown to us, and we know not how to reconcile a Lady going out in their Company, and perhaps be prevented attending to those Duties required of her as a Matron; we have felt great Difficulty in attending to that Point; and what is to become of a Lady when she gets over there, or how is she to be got back if it is her Wish.

What is your Opinion of the State of the Prisons under Local Jurisdictions?
Mrs. Fry.—It is a very affecting Subject to enter on. I have stated one, that of Plymouth, lately. In many Instances their Condition is most melancholy; I believe that there are several that have no Instruction, no Employment, no Inspection, no Classification, and that they get into a most low and deplorable State of Morals, and they may be truly called Schools for Crime; I would not say that all are in that Condition, but I fear many are. One or Two Circumstances I thought I might represent as peculiarly objectionable, such as the Gaolers selling Beer and Spirits to Prisoners; Prisoners receiving an Allowance of Money, which is the Case still I believe in some of our County Gaols; also the Gaolers, as I mentioned before, farming the Prisoners and Officers: these are very objectionable Points.

Are you aware that is the Case in the Prisons in the County of Northumberland?
I believe it is, but nothing can be more objectionable; I have mentioned one case I met with in a County Gaol in Wales. In the ———— (but I do not like to mention Names of Places) I lately found the Prisoners treading the Wheel on nothing but Bread and Water; the Gaoler said they could not live upon it and preserve their Health, therefore it was necessary for them to be maintained very much by their Relations out of the Gaol. I found some Prisoners heavily chained in a Town Gaol, which is contrary to Act of Parliament in County Gaols, but I believe in Town Gaols they may chain them and do as they like with them. Those are the principal Things I feel it right to allude to. In Debtors Prisons—it is not necessary to mention that, because I hope we shall not have them long, or not so filled—I doubt whether any Prisons tend to contaminate the Public so much as the Debtors Prisons.

There is very little Restriction as to what the Debtors receive in the Gaols?
None whatever, in some.

Are you not aware that in some of the Borough Prisons the Keeper does not reside within the Prison?
Yes, that is the Case; but I have not seen any one lately in England in that Situation; but I very lately visited one in Scotland; the Gaoler lived, I should think, nearly a Mile from the Prison, from the Time I had to wait, and a very wretched State of Things there was in that Gaol.

Are you are aware that in some of the Borough Prisons there is no Separation between Males and Females?
I have found it the Case, but not lately; in those Prisons which I have seen at ———— it was so, and in ————; but I think it is altered in some of the Prisons. I wish to make One Observation respecting the Borough Prisons. I am quite aware that, generally speaking, it would be an Advantage to the Country to have them done away with, but there are Instances where the Counties are very large, there it is desirable that some small Prison should remain; for instance, Plymouth; Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse require One Prison; and it appears to me they should have not only Sessions but Assizes held there. It is Forty-six Miles from Devonport to Exeter, which is a serious Thing. The Removal of Prisoners is a Subject which ought to come under Consideration; when they are removed they should not be exposed to the Public, but have covered Conveyances; and in our Prisons in the Country Female Prisoners have sometimes arrived in a most undesirable Condition.
Mrs. Pryer.—In a very deplorable Condition, many of them.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

You think a Reform is necessary in the Management of the Borough Prisons?

Absolutely necessary.

You think it desirable that Matrons specially appointed should go out in the Female Convict Ships; what Arrangements would you propose?

Mrs. Fry.—We are most earnest that Matrons should go out where Arrangements can be made that they will be cared for on the other Side of the Water, and that they are Women of that Character that they may safely be exposed to the Society into which they may be cast; and we wish every Advantage taken of the Opportunities of respectable Women or Missionaries and their Wives going out. I venture also to observe, that in Convict Ships generally, as they have no Chaplain on board, it is very desirable to allow Missionaries of sound religious Characters and good Principles to go in them to Australia, as it cannot be doubted the Influence and Services of such would be very useful. I much regretted lately when Two Gentlemen of the Society of Friends were going to that Land purely to do good to the Community, religiously and morally, partly by establishing Temperance Societies, Education, and the Circulation of the Holy Scriptures, they were not allowed to go in a Convict Ship though they wished to pay their own Passage.

In case Matrons cannot be sent out, what do you think the most expedient Course?

Mrs. Pryer.—That has been a Difficulty. The Arrangement we have introduced has been submitted to the Surgeon Superintendent appointed by Government on board the Ship; but the Ladies have generally had a View to Employment and Instruction, and Schools for Children and Adults on board the Ship during the Voyage, for which we have endeavoured to furnish both the Materials for Employment and some Addition to their Clothing for that Purpose, and in which Government has for the last several Years very kindly assisted us. They do a Part, and we have the Management of it. Patchwork is a Thing that has always been introduced, and sometimes Knitting has lately been added for their Employment, and which we understand has been found to answer. The Patchwork is provided by the Ladies; Government pays for it, but we have it all to provide; also Haberdashery of various Materials, Scissors, and Spectacles for those that want them, Cloths, and every Article that is really useful and necessary, and for every Woman to have the same, to prevent Confusion and Animosity, and prevent if possible One Female pilfering from another. They have the Scriptures, which the British and Foreign Bible Society have always supplied freely. The Testament and the Psalms bound together is quite sufficient for them, and we are happy to find they are always glad to receive them, and we always find in that Article, as well as others, it will not do to make any Distinction, even those who cannot read. We have them laid by for them to be given to them at the End of the Voyage, provided they have then learnt to read, which we are informed has stimulated many to do so in order to obtain them.

Mrs. Fry.—We think a very great Advantage arises from a Library on board the Vessel, not only for the Women but for the Sailors.

Mrs. Pryer.—The Surgeon superintending it.

Mrs. Fry.—I think we could hardly calculate on the Advantage of a Library. The Human Mind must have something to occupy it, and how desirable to have that which will do them Good and not Harm! We do not limit ourselves to Religious Books.

Mrs. Pryer.—This is a Request that the Surgeon of the Convict Ship will take charge of the Library which the Ladies Committee have provided, to lend out the Books every Week, for the Benefit of the Female Convicts and all on board, and on their Arrival in the Port to distribute them as Rewards amongst those Prisoners and their Children who by their Improvement in Learning and good Conduct have given the most Satisfaction. The Committee also request that the Surgeon will have the kindness to send them a written Answer to the following Inquiries: First, Has the Matron conducted herself with Propriety, and has her Influence over the Women appeared beneficial? Secondly, Have the Monitors attended to the Duties of their Office, and have the School-

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

mistresses kept School as regularly as Circumstances would admit? Thirdly, What Number of Women and Children have learned to read during the Voyage? Fourthly, Have the Prisoners appeared to value the hearing of the Holy Scriptures, and been frequent in reading them themselves? Fifthly, Have the Library Books been read; and have the Materials for Patchwork and Knitting been properly used, and furnished useful Employment for the Women; and have the Arrangements made by the Ladies Committee proved generally advantageous?

Mrs. Fry.—There are regular Schoolmistresses appointed by the Ladies from among the Prisoners; some of them perform their Duty remarkably well. We think that the Instructions should begin as soon as they enter the Gaols, we find the Women come in such a deplorable State from some of the County Prisons, and so desirous to contaminate others; but we cannot help thinking Advantage would result in England from a similar Plan to that adopted in Ireland, of a Depôt for the Females. When I was before the Committee of the House of Commons I was rather doubtful about the Result, but Experience has proved to us how much such an Arrangement was wanted, and it has struck us how far a Wing in the great Milbank Pentitentiary might be devoted to that Purpose; that all the Prisoners, on being sentenced to Transportation, should be sent to that Place, and it should be superintended by Ladies, and the same Plans adopted that are to go on in the Voyage; they would then come trained to the Ships, and would be far more likely to turn out well when they got to the Colony; and it is of importance as it respects the Prisoners and as it respects the Colony, for the Effect of the Conduct of the Female Convicts there is no light Consideration, and we have had great Satisfaction in our Communication with the late Governor General Darling's Wife. We have not heard so much lately; but we have received Information of several of our late Prisoners turning out valuable Servants.

Do you think the Hulks might be employed advantageously for that Purpose?

I think that the River is peculiarly exposed; and it is almost impossible, however guarded it may be, to prevent a Degree of Communication with the Sailors and Persons on the Water. I prefer the Idea of a Wing of the Penitentiary.

Mrs. Pryer.—If it could be accomplished it would be a great Improvement in preparing them for the Voyage. Many of them are in a very ignorant State of Mind, and they upset the whole System unless there is very great Care.

Do you find in Newgate a great Inconvenience from having Prisoners who have been sent back from Convict Ships as unfit for the Voyage?

Miss Frazer.—The Instances are rare; those are Instances of old Women principally. The Surgeon comes to the Prison, and points out who he thinks fit for the Voyage, and who are unfit; they are not sent on board.

They have been kept back from Transportation?

They have.

Do not you think that Persons of that Description would be better placed in a Wing of the Penitentiary than retained in Newgate and in the County Gaols?

Mrs. Fry.—Decidedly. It is a terrible Thing to see the Situation in which some Women are sent from the County Prisons to the Convict Ships; most deeply affecting; I am sure every Peer present would deplore to see some of the Scenes we witness. They have been sent on the very Point of being confined, not in the least in a State to set off, and sometimes under very distressing Circumstances. We had some sent all the Way from Scotland, in a very improper State; they were put into the Hospital Ship in the River, which is only for Men; Two or Three Women kept in a Men's Ship. I believe there is One alone now on board that Ship.

Mrs. Pryer.—There has been One there for several Months alone.

Mrs. Fry.—Frequently One Woman alone. I think I must go back to the Subject of Borough Gaols. It is a most grievous Thing, they are almost all under the Care of Men only; I have seen a Woman shut up in One Room by herself,

herself, only under the Care of a Turnkey; the Exposure is so injurious, and many most affecting Instances have come to my Knowledge; these Things ought not to be; I think they ought to be prevented.

Mrs. E. Fry. Msr. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

Are you of opinion that Imprisonment in Newgate, Giltspur Street, and the Borough Compter, in their present Condition, must have the Effect of corrupting the Morals of their Inmates, and manifestly tend to the Extension rather than to the Suppression of Crime?

Mrs. Pirie.—Decidedly so.

Are the Prisoners in general in Newgate crowded much too closely together?

Mrs. Pryer.—It is ruinous.

Mrs. Fry.—There are Twenty or Thirty Women in One Room; all shut up together.

For every Description of Crime?

Yes; and what must be the Result!

Are there not Women for Trial for every Grade of Crime in Newgate placed together?

Miss Frazer.—With free Access from one Ward to another there can be no effectual Separation.

Would it not be most desirable that Attention should be paid in our Prisons to prevent Persons becoming more depraved than when committed to Prison?

Undoubtedly.

You do not think that the Condition of Newgate at the present Moment is such as to prevent Contamination?

Mrs. Fry.—Certainly not, though we are doing the best we can for a very bad System; every thing is as badly arranged there as it is possible with regard to Moral Improvement; but we must do the Justice to the Magistrates to say they have taken a great deal of Pains, and since I first knew Newgate there has been great Improvement; and since our Suggestion of an Objection to the Admission of Visitors to the Prison, and too great an Admission of Porter and Roast Chickens, and other such Things coming into Newgate, these have been much checked.

Mrs. Pirie.—They were allowed Wine and every Delicacy a Year ago.

There is still great Room for Improvement?

Yes, very great.

Mrs. Pryer.—They have at all Times free Access to each other in the Wards.

Mrs. Fry.—If a Plan were adopted for the Women immediately on receiving Sentence of Transportation being sent into a Wing of the Penitentiary, Newgate would be so improved that a Classification might be made; whereas there is now no Classification but between tried and untried.

Do you think removing those Women would have the Effect of clearing the Gaol sufficiently to enable a good Classification to take place?

Mrs. Pirie.—I think it would, because we should have the Use of the Convict Cells.

Mrs. Fry.—It is so very faulty a Prison that it never can be effectual.

Do you think it desirable that the Penitentiary should be converted into a general House of Correction for the District under the Central Court Act?

I think that might be done to great Advantage, not only for London and Middlesex, but spread through the Country; for we little know the various Evils going on in the Prisons in London, and nothing worse than Clerkenwell.

The Committee understand that 1,400 separate Cells can be made at the Penitentiary, Milbank, which would most probably be enough sufficiently to clear the Prisons of Newgate, Giltspur Street, and Coldbath Fields?

I doubt that; I think we have had from 1,000 to 1,200 Persons in Coldbath Fields.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

The Question refers, not to the taking off the Excess from Coldbath Fields only, but to remove all convicted Persons from Newgate and Giltspur Street Compter, which would then only contain Prisoners before Trial?

Undoubtedly. I think before I leave speaking of Newgate I may say, as to the System of Instruction and Employment and Classification such as we have been enabled to adopt, after trying it for Eighteen Years, we are increasingly confirmed in the Utility of the Plans, and we never felt more satisfied than we have of late Years, for we have had more Instances of Women turning out well; we think that a greater Effect might be expected if we were seconded by the Means of proper Discipline.

Will you state what your Plan for the Classification and Management of Newgate would be?

That would require a good deal of Consideration, for it would be applicable more to untried than to tried Prisoners; most of the Prisoners in Newgate are Convicts at present. I have no Doubt there might be a very valuable Division of untried Prisoners, we have such a Variety, from the Classes of the most profligate and worst of Women to some respectable Characters. My Opinion is, that classing is much better done according to Character than the Nature of the Offence. A Person may commit a very small Crime, and yet be One of the most hardened Characters; whereas a Person of generally innocent Conduct may have been tempted by some beautiful Article of Jewellery, who has borne a good Character up to that Time. I think if we were allowed to take the Subject into consideration we might make a Proposition upon it.

Do you think with reference to Males as well as Females it is desirable that Persons when sent to Prison should be kept in separate Cells?

It is a very important Point, and I have no Doubt it would almost entirely prevent Contamination in Prison. I have some Doubt as to the Justice of doing it to untried Prisoners, for it is a severe Sentence in itself; how should we like to be confined in a solitary Cell, being innocent?

The Question alludes to a light Cell, and also that the Prisoner before Trial should be permitted to have the Use of Books, and Employment if he chose, being paid his Earnings when discharged, and to write and to receive Letters, and to receive Visits from his Friends; would not the Prisoner who was innocent prefer being in that Cell to being in a Ward with a great many others, where the Language is so bad that he could hardly be expected to avoid Contamination; would it not be a Boon to such a Person to keep him separate before Trial?

To many it would, no Doubt.

Miss Frazer.—I think most of the better Prisoners would say it was so; I have known them say that it is quite a Relief to them to come to Newgate from Clerkenwell.

Does your Experience enable you to state whether Prisoners before Trial have ever or generally expressed a Wish to be kept separate from other Prisoners?

I have known an Instance of a Man saying that he very much preferred solitary Imprisonment to being a Yardsman in Coldbath Fields.

Have you ever known an Instance of a Man committed for Trial to Newgate for Murder placed in a Yard with many others, and sleeping in a Room with Four or Five and twenty Prisoners, all of whom are aware that if convicted they will be transported; whereas he is conscious that he will be executed; in this Case, would it not be a Mercy to him to keep him separate?

Mrs. Fry.—There can be no Doubt of that; but yet I think the Subject of solitary Confinement a very serious one, and one that requires much Consideration. I am quite aware that many most able Gentlemen are entirely in favour of it, and it has many favourable Results, none so much as keeping them from being contaminated, and giving them Time for Reflection; but it is a Punishment that requires very great Care, as it appears to me there is a Liability as to nervous and low-spirited Persons being brought into a low or deranged State of Mind; it requires great Care not to go too far, and particularly for Women and Children.

Miss Frazer.—I think for Children it is a most cruel Punishment.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

You do not think that solitary Confinement is a fitting Punishment as applied to young Children?

I think not.

What is your Opinion as to its being a proper Punishment for Females in general?

I should have no Objection to it at all.

Mrs. Fry.—If not too long, and under certain Regulations; we have such a Variety of Women coming into Prison, some stout hearty Women who would be affected by nothing, others very nervous Women under delicate Circumstances; there must be some discretionary Power, or else some of the Punishments of the present Day will be very severe, and such as I believe we have hardly ever had in this Country; there must be somewhere a wise discretionary Power. I believe Separation is excellent and highly valuable if it be properly managed; the Principle is excellent, but it requires very great Care as to the Arrangement made. I think if any thing would encourage suitable Persons visiting Prisons, the Prisoners being confined separately would do it; it gives an excellent Opportunity for Instruction, and it tends a little to divert the Length of Time in which they are confined. I am anxious that Punishments should be always consistent with the general Spirit that exists in this Country. I hope we always shall be a benevolent People, and we must shew it towards Offenders; it is a Point I have a good deal at Heart; I have been much affected in visiting some Prisons lately, and though I have been in the habit of doing it many Years, I think never so much as lately; in some respects I think there is more Cruelty in our Gaols than I have ever before seen; in some Places they tread the Wheel now Ten Hours, and I have found one Ten and a Half, which is beyond the Act of Parliament, and their Diet appeared very poor; but the State of Things was such that on looking to the Prisoners I said to the Gaoler I was confident from their Countenances and their pallid Appearance that the Men were suffering from their Situation, and that my Opinion was that they would be unable to return to their Work and Avocations in the Country to labour for their Living. He said, "You are right there; we have had several Instances; One Man was in that State that he could not walk from the Prison; we were obliged to get him a Conveyance." The Surgeon said that was correct, but that he had made a Representation to the Magistrates, and they had lately altered the Diet; it was altered only a Fortnight. It appeared there had been several Instances where the Men were rendered unable to maintain themselves. I have heard the Observation, how far a Prisoner requires better Food than a Man out of Gaol; Imprisonment is very depressing, and the Diet that would serve them when they were about their ordinary Occupations will not keep them in Health in Prison, and especially if they tread the Wheel. Another Thing is the Diet being constantly the same; we are hardly aware how much it aids our Health to have some Variety of Food, and I believe that the same Thing Day after Day does not agree with the Stomach. I am of opinion, that they might have a Diet which would keep them in Health with little Expense. I hear in One Prison they are weighed, but I think that they ought often to be weighed, to see that the Diet is sufficient, and that the Exercise is not too great for their Health. I should be glad this should be a serious Consideration, that the Punishments were such that the poor Prisoners may at least have their Health preserved, and as one Means always be allowed Fire in very cold Weather.

Will you define the Difference between solitary and separate Confinement?

I think by solitary Confinement we mean the Plan adopted in the Penitentiary at Milbank, which I think has not been applicable to Women.

Mrs. Pirie.—The Effect on the Minds of Girls from Twelve to Fifteen has been truly affecting.

Producing Insanity?

No; but the Vacancy of Countenance evidencing a Vacancy of Mind; the Children were afraid to speak to us, and the Governor himself appeared to turn away with Regret from such Instances.

Mrs. Fry.—It will be One Question whether they shall be shut up without a Light at Night, and how many Hours they should be kept in Darkness.

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

My Brother Samuel Hoare says, that Night Lights are kept up in the Coldbath Fields Prison.

You have alluded to the Diet being too low considering the Work performed; which would you prefer; that the Work should be lessened, or the Diet increased?

It appears to me the wiser Plan would have been to spend the Hour in Instruction which is now spent on the Wheel; I am not a Friend to undue Indulgence.

Can you state the Diet?

They have a Pound and a Half of Bread a Day, a little Gruel twice in the Day, and Potatoes for Dinner, and a little Meat, I think, on the Sabbath, or once a Week; this was introduced only lately to keep them in Health. I think that if the Wheel is trodden Ten Hours in the Day they ought to have a Portion of Animal Food daily.

Are you of opinion the Authority given by the Gaol Act, to extend the Labour on the Tread-wheel to Ten Hours, is too much?

Decidedly; I have no Scruple in saying it is too much.

And that it ought to be diminished?

Yes; and when we consider what it is to have certain Muscles constantly in Motion, it is so different from a Variety of Exercise. I know another Prison where I have Two or Three Times seen the People on the Wheels; the Governor told me that they rarely quitted the Prison able to work, if they had been any Length of Time; that many of the Men went out lamed.

To what Period do you desire to limit the Hours of Labour on the Tread-mill?

It is rather difficult to say, for there is some Difference in the Tread-wheels; some are much easier than others, and so much depends, therefore, upon the Nature of the Exercise. I should have thought Ten Hours was much too long; I should have said Eight Hours.

Do you not think that a Regulation which would enact that a Man should work a certain Number of Hours on the Tread-wheel, and a certain Number of Hours on the Crank-mill, would get rid of the Objection?

Materially; let there be a Change of Exercise and a little Change of Diet.

Have you ever seen Females employed at the Crank Wheel?

Yes, I have; I think in the Castle of Lancaster; and I have heard it answers very well.

Have you seen one of the new Tread-mills with revolving Rails, so as to give them Exercise with their Arms at the same Time that they tread the Wheel?

I have not. I beg to be excused stating, that though I have a high Idea of our Magistracy generally, yet on these Changes taking place they immediately adopt them; they are hardly sensible of the great Watchfulness requisite in introducing them, and the great Care in their Execution. If they are to be wholly silent, and they are to be worked very hard, their Diet must be altered; this cannot be too strongly impressed; it appears to me if it is not attended to we shall have Cruelty in our Prisons such as we have never known in this Country.

Which do you think most likely to tend to the Prevention of Crimes; short Imprisonments with strict Discipline, or long Imprisonments with inferior Discipline?

I am decidedly of Opinion short Imprisonments with strict Discipline.

What in your Opinion has been the general Result with regard to the Reformation of Prisoners after they have been discharged from the Prison?

It is rather difficult for me to say much upon that Subject, because I have not myself been in the habit regularly of visiting any Bridewell or House of Correction; I have generally visited those Prisons where the Prisoners have

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

been transported; but I have brought one of the Reports of the Ladies of the British Society; many of them do visit those Prisons in the Counties, and are of opinion that generally the Women turn out well where they are properly instructed and employed. As to the System of Separation, it has not been tried, so that we cannot speak to that; we have not thought that in Milbank it has turned out quite so well as we expected it would.

Do you think it is expedient that one uniform System of Prison Discipline should be established in every Gaol and House of Correction in England and Wales?

I think it most important; but one uniform Diet cannot be established, the Habits of Countries are so different. There should be Regulations made that there shall be a sufficient Diet. What would agree with Prisoners in Scotland or Wales would not agree with Prisoners in England.

Do you think that for the sake of securing Uniformity of Discipline it is expedient that the Rules and Regulations of the Gaols shall in future be submitted to the Secretary of State for his Approval, instead of, as at present, to the Judges of Assize?

I am decidedly of that Opinion; and it is very lamentable to see the great Variety of Treatment, and what I call Unfairness, in the Prisons; in one Prison they have every Comfort of Life and in another they are in a State of Misery, Distress, and Want.

Are you of opinion that Inspectors of Prisons should be appointed to visit the Prisons from Time to Time, and to report to the Secretary of State?

I think nothing hardly is so likely to do Good; but we are different from Ireland, where they have Local and Government Inspectors. In Ireland, the Magistrates do not attend so much to Prisons, nor do I think they are quite of the same Description of Men, though there are very valuable Men among them; but the Local Inspectors go in daily; and the Government Inspectors I consider as Officers of the greatest Importance, and that they do great Good in Ireland, and that they would do much Good in England; but I do not think there is any Need of Local Inspectors in this Country.

Do you not think that Persons whose Trials have been postponed, or who, having been tried, have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, should not be confined in the Gaols or Houses of Correction?

Undoubtedly not; they should be sent to Lunatic Asylums or Private Establishments; but that is a Subject worth Consideration. I have sometimes thought that where Persons have committed Murder, and really have done it in an insane State, that if that Person entirely recovers his Faculties it is very hard to be doomed to a Lunatic Asylum for Life; I do not think they are ever liberated.

Are you of opinion that the Officers in the Prisons should be permitted to receive any Portion of the Prisoners Earnings?

It is a doubtful Case; if it is done impartially I approve of it, so that they employ all the Prisoners alike, and then have a Per-centage upon it; but I am not fond of their employing a few clever Workwomen, and letting others remain unemployed, which I think is sometimes the Case.

Do you not think that the Earnings of Prisoners under Sentence should be paid to the Fund out of which the Prison is maintained, and not given to themselves?

I am quite of opinion that Part should go to the Fund, and Part to themselves on their quitting the Prison; that is one most important Means of preventing their returning to Crimes.

Would not this System give a Premium upon the worst Offenders, inasmuch as the Man who is sentenced for Six Months would receive a larger Sum of Money than the Man who had committed a minor Offence, and been committed only for One Month; would it not be better that the Prisoners on their Discharge from the Prisons should have a certain Allowance given them by the County to take them home?

It is so important for them early to feel the Sweets of Industry; they would not

Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. E. Pryer, Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

not wish to remain long enough in Prison to get an increased Sum; I think it is so important to let them feel the Value of Industry.

Mrs. Pryer.—I am of the same Opinion.

(*To Mrs. Fry.*)—You have also visited lately some of the Prisons in Scotland?

I have, some of them.

Do you think that the Prisons in Scotland are in a worse Condition than those in England?

Not to be compared. There is one of the best Prisons we have in the whole Kingdom; the House of Correction and Bridewell in Glasgow is a well-arranged and capital Prison, and in most Points I quite approve of the Plans adopted; but, with that Exception, I consider their Prisons remarkably bad, though there have been some new Prisons which have been lately built. I saw one at Dumbarton, and though they have with this Prison a good Space of Ground for a Yard (though in general they have no Airing-grounds in Scotland) they were not allowed to go out, because the Walls were not high enough. I heard the Magistrates had not thought it necessary to raise the Walls. They have no Instruction, no Employment, no Classification, except the Separation of the Men and the Women.

You conceive that the Prisons in Scotland require as much if not more Reform than those in England?

Much more; but I think they are in a fair Way of being reformed. There is a very valuable Society of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Scotland lately formed, also of Ladies, who see the existing Evils, and are desirous to apply a Remedy, anxious to know what the Regulations which may be enacted are. I believe there is an earnest Endeavour to remedy the existing Evils in Scotland.

Would it be desirable, in your Opinion, that Inspectors should be appointed in Scotland as well as in England?

Decidedly; I think that the Inspectors in Ireland do great Good; some of the Prisons in Ireland are some of the best I have seen; there is the best Order maintained there.

Which are the best you have seen in Ireland?

The County Gaol in Cork; the Richmond Penitentiary; the Limerick Gaol, excellent; Thos. Spring Rice has done much with that; when I visited Ireland lately, Ten Years after I had been there before, I was struck with the Improvement; but they have in Dublin One of the worst Prisons I ever saw; that is Newgate; it is a Disgrace to any Country. When Lord Stanley was Secretary we represented to him the gross Evils going on, and some Arrangement was made that a Portion of the Prisoners should be taken out of Newgate; it is not quite in so bad a State now, but still very bad; and as to the Debtors Prisons also, there is much to be done, but they find it difficult to interfere, because Part of the Fees of the Gaols go to the Corporation, which causes cruel Oppression.

From the Information you have obtained with regard to Prisons in Scotland, are you not aware that from reduced Funds, and other Circumstances over which the Magistrates have no Control, that much cannot be done unless the Law is changed?

I quite believe that to be the Case. The great Advantage of a Society was to show the Evils, and next to know how to remedy them. I found there was no Fund to meet the Necessities of the Case, and that they must come before Government. There is one other Circumstance I would beg to allude to; that is, the flogging Prisoners. We are of Opinion it is so injurious in its Tendency that it much tends to harden, to make them more desperate; and what is very injurious, it does not appear to deter from Crime, for after a Prisoner had had a very severe Flogging he began again in a Day or Two, more especially the Boys. We very much hope it will be put an End to in this Country. A Case has come under the Knowledge of the Ladies visiting Newgate which it is important to relate, as it shows the Tendency of Corporeal Punishment to harden, and that of Religious Instruction to reform and

soften, the Character. A Man who barely escaped Transportation was whipped, and imprisoned in the House of Correction; the Effect upon his Mind, as described by a Fellow Prisoner, from his own Statement, was, that he felt degraded and disgraced, and became utterly reckless as to his future Course. He soon returned to desperately evil Practices, and in about Two Years Time was an Inmate of the Cells in Newgate under Sentence of Death for Housebreaking. There he found some who were most anxious, according to the Ability given to them, to lead their Fellow Sinners to accept the Salvation freely offered in the Gospel to the vilest, if they are willing to be saved in God's appointed Way. He became an attentive Listener to the Scriptures, and desired to be furnished with some Questions, from the Answers to which, selected from the Bible, the leading Truths are simply explained or exhibited. After remaining some Time in the Cells, and continuing during the whole Time he was in Newgate to give every Proof of Steadiness in his expressed Determination to turn from every evil Way, he was sent to the House of Correction, to undergo intermediate Punishment preparatory to Transportation for Life; but neither hard Labour or solitary Imprisonment seemed to have Power now to rouse an angry Feeling; on the contrary, his Punishment seemed less than he deserved. His Conduct ever since has been exemplary, and he is now a Wardsman in Newgate, a most useful Man, and we trust an humble Christian.

Mrs. E. Fry. Mrs. E. Pryer. Mrs. J. Pirie, and Miss C. Frazer.

Do you think that the Duration of the Punishment assigned should be altered in case of the good Behaviour of the Individual when in Confinement; or that it would be preferable that in all Cases the Punishment assigned should be enforced?

I think, where the Punishment is extremely severe, it is right it should be shortened; and that in addition to that, where there is very good Conduct, it should be curtailed.

Do you think that should be by general Arrangement, or without being held out to Prisoners in special Cases only?

It does now exist in a Degree; but as a Principle I do not think it should be too much held out; I know there would be great Difficulty attend it. When we first went into Newgate we made Representations to Lord Sidmouth in some Cases of decided Improvement, and he was so kind to attend to us; but we found it not always answer, and that it led to hypocritical Profession.

You would not deprive the Crown of the Power of Mercy?

Most decidedly not. I think upon the whole, our Punishments being executed is right, but the only Thing that would deter Prisoners from Crime, and make them better Subjects, is to improve their Principles; and the best Mode of doing that is to afford proper Religious Instruction.

The Witnesses are directed to withdraw.

SAMUEL MARCH PHILLIPPS Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

S. M. Phillipps, Esq.

You are One of the Under Secretaries of State?

I am.

Are you aware that a Commission has been lately appointed to consider the Subject of Secondary Punishments?

There has been no Commission expressly on the Subject of Secondary Punishments; but there is a Commission called the Criminal Law Commission.

Was that appointed by the King, or by a Minute of the Treasury?

By the King.

How long ago was that Commission appointed?

Nearly Two Years ago. The Commissioners have made One Report in the last Year.

Does their Commission authorize them to inquire into the Subject of Secondary Punishments?

The Commission was issued for the Purpose of inquiring whether it would

S. M. Phillipps, Esq.

be practicable to consolidate the whole of the Criminal Law; but the Commissioners have had their Attention particularly directed by the Secretary of State to the Consideration of Criminal Punishments, and the Commissioners may therefore very probably mention in their Report the Subject of Secondary Punishment. I do not know whether they are preparing such a Report.

Where Insane Prisoners are confined in the Prisons, is a Report made to the Home Office?
Yes.

Do you receive many Applications from the Visiting Justices requesting that Persons who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity should be removed from the Prisons?
Frequently.

Is there not great Inconvenience in their remaining there?
There is great Inconvenience sustained, no Doubt.

Does any Plan occur to you which might be adopted by which this Inconvenience might be got rid of?
They can only be sent to some Place of Confinement for Lunatics; at present they may be removed to an Asylum, if an Asylum is pointed out by the Visiting Magistrates; they are then removed by Order of the Secretary of State, on the Recommendation of the Visiting Magistrates. In some Instances, but in very few, they have been removed to Bethlem Hospital.

Have you not heard of Instances in which Persons acquitted on the Ground of Insanity have been sent to a Lunatic Asylum, and removed back again to the Gaols, in consequence of the Physicians of the Asylum reporting that the Person was not insane?
There have been several Instances; it is the regular Course when the Secretary of State receives a Representation from the Medical Attendants and Directors of the Asylum that the Prisoner is perfectly sane.

It appears that there are Persons who have been kept in the Gaols of this Country on the Ground of Insanity from Sixteen to Twenty-four Years?
I know some have been confined for a very long Time.

Do you not think that it would be expedient that another Wing should be added to Bethlem Hospital, by a Grant of Public Money to the Governors of that Hospital?
I can scarcely give an Opinion on the Question of a Public Grant of Money, which involves many Considerations; but there is certainly great Inconvenience caused by the present System.

Has there been any Communication between the Governors of Bethlem and the Secretary of State upon the Subject?
No official Communication. I desired, some Time ago, Mr. Capper, the Superintendent of Convicts, to ascertain what might be the probable Expense of making some Addition to Bethlem Hospital for the Reception of Lunatic Prisoners; it was in consequence of Letters received at the Office pointing out the Inconvenience of Lunatic Prisoners being in the Gaols that I desired him to ascertain whether any thing of that Kind was practicable, and I understood from him, that at the Expense of about Five or Six hundred Pounds a Wing might be made to contain about Twenty Prisoners.

When a Prisoner has been tried, and has been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, at whose Expense is he kept?
This Expense is on the County; but by an Act of Parliament, if the Magistrates ascertain the Settlement of a Prisoner they may make an Order upon the Parish to provide such weekly Allowance as shall be fixed by the Secretary of State, which the Parish must pay while the Prisoner is in Confinement.

Is the Rule the same if on his Arraignment he is found incapable of pleading?
The Rule is the same.

S. M. Phillipps, Esq.

By whom is the Order made upon the Parish to support the Prisoner?
The Magistrates make the Order; the Secretary of State fixes the Amount of the Allowance.

The Parish may perhaps refuse to pay, and resist?
It would be a Misdemeanor, I apprehend, to disobey the Order, which is in pursuance of an Act of Parliament. That is a Question which has not arisen. I think there has been only One Instance that I remember, a long Time ago, in which the Parish made a Difficulty, and that was in consequence of some Omission or Irregularity in a Point of Form.

How did that Question terminate?
The Expense which had been incurred was paid by Order of the Secretary of State.

From what Fund?
It was paid by the Superintendent of Convicts, and included in his Account.

Do you happen to recollect in what Act the Provision respecting Lunatic Prisoners is contained?
The Act is the 9th Geo. 4. c. 40.

Supposing a Person became sane after having been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, at whose Expense is he then maintained?
If he had been supported at the Expense of the County while insane in Prison, he would continue to be so supported after being declared to be sane as long as he is in Prison.

If he was confined at the Expense of the Parish?
The same Course would continue as long as he continues in Prison.

In no Instance would he be kept at the Expense of the Public, if detained on the Ground of Insanity?
In no Instance, that I know; Bethlem of course excepted.

If he is detained under the Authority of the Secretary of State, at whose Expense would this be?
In the Case mentioned the Prisoner is at the Disposal of the Crown, and he is confined in the Gaol by Order of the Secretary of State. If after a certain Time he becomes sane there is a Representation to that Effect to the Secretary of State, and if the Secretary of State thinks it would be unsafe to set him at liberty the Prisoner would still be confined in the Gaol, and the Expense of supporting him would be still upon the County, or upon the Parish, exactly as it had been before he became sane.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Colonel T. C. Challoner.

Colonel THOMAS CHALONER B. CHALLONER is called in, and examined as follows:

You are a Magistrate of the Counties of Surrey and Berks?
I am.

Are you a Visiting Magistrate for the Prisons in Surrey?
At present for Brixton and the County Gaol; I came off the last Quarter from Guildford and Kingston.

Are you of opinion that separate Confinement for Prisoners is advisable?
Under certain Circumstances I have no Doubt it will be a most admirable Plan; but the Thing I have found come nearest to that is the silent System, and which I have no Doubt could be immediately introduced into our Houses of Correction, without any additional Expense to the County. There are only Three Points which I think will very much facilitate that desirable Object. The Difficulty which appears in the silent System is, having a certain and moderate Punishment, which may be with Safety given into the Power of the Governor, by making a proper Report to the Visiting Magistrates. I have

Colonel T. C. Challoner.

turned it in my Mind, what could most easily be effected, really to have a sufficient Check upon the Prisoners; the usual Modes have been a Reduction of Gruel and a Reduction of Food, and in other Cases they have been obliged to be put into solitary Confinement, and we have adopted, both at Guildford and at Brixton, perfectly dark Cells, without the Admission of a Glimmer of Light; still, for all the Infractions of Prison Discipline recorded in the Governor's Journal, and when it was found necessary to confine a Prisoner for a Day or more, if those Days were not to count as a Portion of the Imprisonment, that would have the Effect of deterring a great Part of the Prisoners from ever subjecting themselves to that Confinement, and materially contribute to the Perfection of the silent System.

Would not this be giving an enormous Power to the Governor of a Prison to increase the Sentence given by a Court of Justice?

I apprehend it would be only on the same Scale as the Visiting Justices have, after the Termination of a Sentence, of adding a certain Number of Days Confinement. It would be always under the Direction of the Visiting Magistrates, and perhaps if it was a trifling Offence they might not allow that to be added to the Term of Imprisonment.

You would propose that the Magistrates should exercise in these Cases a summary Power of extending the Term of Imprisonment, after an Inquiry into the Facts of the Case?

Yes.

Are you aware that it is the Practice in the Guildford House of Correction to weigh the Prisoners every Month?

I do not apprehend it is, to every Prisoner; I believe it has been done, but that it has been done more as a temporary Order of the Visiting Magistrates at the Moment than as a regular Rule of the Prison.

Do you think that the Prison at Kingston is a Credit to the County of Surrey?

Very much the contrary, and the Magistrates wait only for the Result of the present Bill before Parliament as to the Relief of Debtors to do away with that Prison altogether as a County Prison.

Persons are sent from London to the Kingston House of Correction, are they not?

There are; Persons sent for Nonpayment of Fines; where there is no hard Labour they are sent there, particularly all the Country Prisoners. I am not aware whether the Police Offices send them, but I should apprehend not.

The Construction of the Prison is so deficient that it is impossible to classify the Prisoners according to the Act of Parliament?

Perfectly so. With regard to Classification we find a very great Inconvenience in both our Houses of Correction, in the present Classification according to the Act of Parliament, which of course we obey; but I would strongly recommend that the Classification should be left (with the Exception of dividing the Men and Women, and dividing the tried and untried,) in the Hands of the Visiting Magistrates, subject of course to the different Class of Prisoners in the different Counties they may be in.

You have not got separate Divisions or Compartments upon the Tread-wheel at Guildford?

We have not; we have inquired about it, and from the Experience the Visiting Magistrates have had at Coldbath Fields there is an Inconvenience attached to it, both as to the Heat which the Prisoners would be working in, and as to the less Number of Prisoners which can work on the Wheel at the same Time, as also the Difficulty of working through the Wheel.*

Might not that be remedied by increasing the Length of the Wheel, and making the Buildings higher and more airy.

I have no Doubt it might.

* The Prisoners at Brixton begin at one End of the Wheel, and as one Prisoner leaves the Wheel every Five Minutes they shift every Man to the Right, which could not be done conveniently if there were separate Divisions.

Do you not think it desirable that the Prisoners should be kept separate whilst on the Wheel? *Colonel T. C. Challoner.*

If the silent System was preserved to its full Extent, and if the Prison was under a perfect System of Discipline at which the Coldbath Fields has arrived, I think it is not one of those absolute Necessities which would at all increase the good Conduct of the Prison.

Have you seen the new Invention of the Tread-wheel which has Handrails upon a revolving Wheel, so that the Man is obliged to make use of both his Hands every Time he takes a Step?

I have not.

How do you preserve Silence at Night?

We are only just beginning the System, and there is a Difficulty about that; but we divide our Turnkeys into Watches, instead of the constant Attendance of the Turnkeys upon the same irksome Duty the whole Day. We divide Three Watches, so that any Infraction of the Discipline, or Talking, would be visited by the Punishment at once; which is the Deprivation of a small Portion of Food.

How many separate Cells have you?

At Brixton formerly the Establishment was 112. The Year before last I brought a Measure before the Quarter Sessions, and there were Thirty-six additional Cells added; we have now 148 single Cells, and Twelve double Cells, or rather treble Cells, so that our Cells very nearly contain the Average Complement of Prisoners. The Part I am most anxious to impress upon your Lordships Committee is the great Advantage that would accrue in all the Country Parts of England, but particularly in the Neighbourhood of those Parts of Surrey and Berkshire where I live, if it was in the Power of the Magistrates, in summary Convictions, instead of sending to the Tread-mill, to send a Prisoner into solitary Confinement, as it often happens that a young Man, probably his first Offence, who may have been a little irregular with his Master, is brought before the Magistrate for a minor Offence, and if the young Man is sent to the Tread-mill he is sure to come back worse than he went; if he could be sent to a quiet Cell and solitary Confinement the young Man would come out better than he went in, and the Imprisonment would be only One Third or One Half in Duration, and the Farmer would be glad to take him again into his Service; but now they say that the Contamination of the Tread-mill is such as to prevent his being taken again, and in consequence of this usually he goes up to London, and becomes a Rogue and Vagabond, or professed Thief.

Would you impannel a Jury of Three or Five, or give the Magistrates the summary Power?

I would give the Magistrates the Power, on the same graduated Scale we now have; I would give a single Magistrate the Power as we are empowered at present; but as it would be more severe, where we have the Power to imprison for One Month I would give the Power not exceeding Twelve Days; where we have the Power for Two Months I would give the Power not exceeding Sixteen or Twenty Days. Solitary Confinement is very little felt until after the Eighth Day; and, in my Opinion, if any of the Prisoners were asked at Brixton whether they would go upon the Wheel for a Month, or take Eight Days solitary Confinement, they would choose the Eight Days Confinement; but if asked whether they would take Fourteen Days, they would choose a Month on the Wheel. It is upon that I have founded the Scale I at present submit.

The Visiting Magistrates, you think, ought to have the Power of placing the Prisoners in Classes; should you place them according to their Offences, or according to their Characters?

According to their Offences; it would in a great measure depend upon the Prison; the Classification at Brixton would be very different from the Classification at Guildford; when the London Prisoners are sent to us at Guildford, we should put them all together, whether Misdemeanants or under Sentence of a Court, whether for Larceny or under summary Conviction; it is sufficient that they come from London, and we should in all probability class them together.

Colonel T. C. Challoner.

If Silence was completely enforced would not Classification become to a Degree unnecessary?

To some Extent; but still there must be a Classification in the Prison, and I think, under the Advice of the Governor and the Consent of the Visiting Magistrates, that that appears to be most natural.

Do you send Misdemeanants to Guildford?

We do not send any thing to Guildford that does not allow of hard Labour.

What is your Opinion of the Practice in the County of Surrey, and in some other Counties, of placing Females on the Tread-wheel?

It answers remarkably well if we can only keep Silence; our greatest Difficulty is keeping Silence among the Women; it is next to impossible; the great Difficulty of getting Wards-women or Monitors who will insist upon that Silence. I believe there is no Difficulty with the Men.

There is no Crank-wheel at Guildford?

No.

You have stated that solitary Confinement might be applied with great Advantage to summary Convictions, particularly in the rural Districts; is there not another Class of Offenders with which the County of Surrey is much troubled; Soldiers sent there by Sentence of Court Martial, to whom it might be advantageously applied?

When we have found the Soldiers troublesome, the only Method we have had to cure them has been solitary Confinement and perfect Darkness. It was mentioned to the Surveyor of the County, that it was desirable to get perfect Darkness and perfect circulation of Air, and we contrived it by putting a tortuous Pipe from the Bottom of the Wall and another at the Top, in the Cells, which are perfectly sweet and ventilated, without a Particle of Light entering.

There is a large Number of Soldiers constantly confined there?

Yes; our Average of Soldiers has been, for the last Year or Two past, Thirty-three or four; it is less now.

Have there not been more Infractions of the Rules of the Prison amongst the Soldiers than in any other Class?

Entirely so; they got together about Three Years ago, and refused to go up to their Cells, and the Governor was obliged to call in the Assistance of the Police; there is great Inconvenience in the Prison from their being there.

Does the Surgeon visit the dark Cells?

The Surgeon sees the Prisoner every Day, and if there is any Doubt at all about the Case, twice. It has had an extraordinary Effect upon the Women; only One has been able to remain there beyond Twelve Hours; one remained there Five Days; she made a great Noise the first Day or Two, but she would not submit 'till the End of Five Days; she was taken out every Morning, and asked if she would behave well, and she said no, she would behave as she had done; the Governor had the Power of putting her there only for Three Days, but I went down Two or Three Mornings to ask whether she would submit.

You are very much troubled with disorderly Women in the Prison, who are continually returning?

Yes; that is a very large Class.

Have you any Observations to offer to the Committee?

It is a very current Opinion, that in case of solitary Confinement being recommended the present State of the Prisons would not admit of it, in consequence of the increased Number; I believe most People labour under a Mistake upon that Point, for if you reduce the Term of Imprisonment, whether to One Half, or in some Cases to One Third, of course one Set of Prisoners go out and another come in; suppose there were a Thousand Prisoners, and they were sentenced to Sixty Days Confinement on the Tread-mill, that would be 60,000 Days Rations the Prison would be obliged to furnish; instead of that, if they are reduced from Sixty Days Confinement to Twelve,

Colonel T. C. Challoner.

it would be 12,000 Rations, instead of 60,000, on the same Number of Prisoners; therefore the present Number of Cells would, as far as the County of Surrey is interested, be sufficient to put in force all the Imprisonments that summary Convictions could supply.

Do you not think it most desirable that the Terms of Imprisonment should be shortened, but that the Discipline should be more uniform and strict?
Undoubtedly.

And that a convicted Prisoner should not be permitted to receive any Luxury whatever?
Undoubtedly. We have adopted that System as far as possible for the last Three or Four Years.

Are you of opinion that Prisoners under Sentence to Imprisonment not exceeding Six Calendar Months should be permitted to receive Visits from their Friends?
Not unless in peculiar Circumstances, under the Direction of the Visiting Magistrates; and in any Restriction of that Kind to render it as difficult as possible is desirable, but not perfectly to put a Bar upon it.

You would make the general Rule not to admit Visitors; the receiving Visitors should be the Exception?
Yes.

The Exception now is, the not permitting the convicted Prisoners to receive Visits?
It is.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Tuesday next, One o'Clock.

Die Mercurii, 27° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Evidence on Gaols.

The LORD ADVOCATE of Scotland, a Member of the House of Commons, attending, is examined as follows:

The Lord Advocate of Scotland.

The Committee are anxious to ask your Lordship your Opinion of the State and Condition of the Prisons in Scotland?

Generally I conceive they are in a very imperfect and very inadequate State, particularly in the small Burghs. There were many Applications made last Summer on the Subject, some of them referring to the appointing of Prisons for Districts, which I should think on the whole a very eligible Plan; but at that Time, as Mr. Crawford was in America making Inquiries there, I thought it desirable that the Consideration of them should be delayed 'till his Report was published.

Are not some of the Prisons so insecure as to render it necessary that Prisoners should be ironed to prevent their Escape?

I believe there are some in that Situation, though I have not had an Opportunity of inspecting them myself; I know that is the Case in some Places.

You think it advisable some Change should take place with respect to Prisons in Scotland?

Undoubtedly.

Have the goodness to state from what Fund the Prisons are now maintained?

I think on that Subject I may refer to the Evidence that was taken before the Committee of the House of Commons, particularly the Evidence of Mr. Duff, Sheriff Depute of the County of Edinburgh, in the Appendix to the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the State of Prisons in Scotland, ordered to be printed on the 18th of May 1826. In Pages 67, 68, and other Parts of that Appendix, there is given what appears to me a very full and accurate Account of the Footing on which that Matter rests in Scotland, and I have only generally to observe, that the Liability of making and maintaining Gaols was imposed on the Royal Burghs by the Statute of 1597, Chapter 277; but the Circumstances of the Country are most materially altered in every respect since that Time; the Number of Prisoners is very much greater, the Funds of the Burghs are very much impaired, their Privileges are very much altered in many respects; there is also, from the Heritable Jurisdictions which existed at that Period having been abolished, a much greater Number of Prisoners thrown upon the Prisons in Royal Burghs than they were liable to receive at that Time, for a great Proportion of Scotland was under the Authority of those Persons who had Heritable Jurisdictions.

See Appendix to Second Report, p. 272.

Do you think that, taking into consideration the Difficulty of determining who ought to pay those Expenses, it would be advisable that a Commission should be appointed?

I think that either there should be a Commission appointed, or that the Government should bring forward some Measure upon the Subject, after making the necessary Inquiries.

Do you think it very desirable that no Delay should take place in bringing forward some Legislative Enactment to remedy the Evils and Abuses of the present System?

I do.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland.

The Committee then understand that in your Opinion there is a Want of pecuniary Means for providing fit Buildings and for the Accommodation and proper Maintenance of Prisoners in Scotland at this Moment?
Yes.

Is it not impracticable under the present Law, except where a Local Act of Parliament has been passed, to obtain sufficient Funds for this Purpose?
I believe it is so, and that all the Improvements that have been made, with hardly any Exception, are under special Acts of Parliament.

Where the Local Acts have not been passed, have the goodness to state to the Committee what Means or out of what Fund they furnish the Means for building the Gaols or maintaining Prisoners therein?
There are in general no other Means but the Funds of the Royal Burghs.

Is not the general Practice of maintaining Prisoners by the Burghs after Conviction felt to be extremely severe and oppressive upon those Burghs?
It is so. Some Questions have also arisen, which are now in litigation between the Counties and the Burghs, with regard to who are bound to maintain the Prisoners under Local Acts. I found it necessary, in one Case where there was a Dispute of that Nature between the Royal Burgh and the County Proprietors, to present a Petition to the Court, and insist that in the meantime the Prisoners should be maintained at the Expense of the Burgh, leaving the Parties to litigate the Question.

In point of fact there is at this Moment a Doubt existing whether the Law would enforce upon the Burghs the Maintenance of Prisoners even after Conviction?
There is a Doubt of it, where the Prisoners come from the Country.

There is no Doubt with regard to those Prisoners who belong to the respective Burghs?
I understand none.

But with respect to County Prisoners, even after Conviction a Doubt does exist whether the Burghs are in Law bound to maintain them?
Yes; and I conceive there are Two Classes as to which Doubts may arise: Persons confined for Revenue Offences, not properly belonging to the County; and there have been lately a Number of Soldiers sent to Gaols for Punishment, which has been a great Evil and a great Inconvenience, and I think it may be doubted whether the Burghs are bound to maintain them. I presented a Remonstrance to the Secretary at War on that Subject, and I understood it was to be attended to, for it appeared to be very injurious to the Prisons which were overloaded by sending Soldiers, and perhaps not desirable for Military Discipline that they should be mixed with other Criminals.

The almost universal Practice throughout Scotland is for the Burghs to be at the Expense of maintaining Prisoners from the Counties after Conviction?
I would say not almost universally, in so far as regards the Number of Prisoners, as many of the larger Prisons are regulated by Local Acts.

Where that Practice does not prevail, upon whom is the Charge imposed; upon the County or upon the Government?
I should apprehend where there are no other Means the immediate Charge is upon the Burgh.

In the Event of Prisons in Scotland requiring either Addition or Repair, what Party is by the present Law bound so to add to or to repair them?
The Magistrates in the Royal Burghs.

Whether they are County or Burgh Prisons?
There are properly no County Prisons, unless by special Acts of Parliament.

And the Funds of most of the Burghs are very inadequate for those Objects?
They have been so for a great many Years in many Burghs.

Is there a proper Classification of Prisoners in the Scotch Prisons?
I think in very few Cases. I believe at Glasgow there is a perfect Classification;

tion; but there are not sufficient Means in any other Instance with which I am acquainted. I intended to have visited the Prisons, but I have not had the Means of doing so beyond Edinburgh; there are not any Means of Classification in the Edinburgh Prisons. *The Lord Advocate of Scotland.*

Are the tried and untried confined together?
In general those before Trial are separated from those who are tried, but the Accommodation is so exceedingly inadequate that hardly any Rule could be observed.

What Religious or other Instruction is given to Prisoners before and after Trial?
In most of the Gaols there is a Clergyman who attends them, or they are attended by the Clergyman of the Persuasion to which the Prisoners belong.

From what Sources were the Funds of the Royal Burghs derived?
Originally from Grants of Land made by the Crown, and Customs and Dues which they levied in the Burghs; but most of them had originally large Grants of Lands.

Are they applicable to other Objects besides the Maintenance of the Gaol?
To other Purposes of the Burgh; the Police and Municipal Expenses.

Where the Funds allotted to the Maintenance of the Gaol are inadequate, by what Process are the adequate Funds procured?
There is no Means of levying a Rate beyond the Rights which the Burghs possess under Acts of Parliament, or Usage without the Sanction of Parliament.

Does the Law of Scotland require that the Burgh Gaols should receive the County Prisoners?
The Law of Scotland requires generally that they should receive all Prisoners, and the Magistrates of Royal Burghs are bound to find Gaols, and to receive Prisoners sent there under legal Warrants.

There is no general Law that gives any Authority to any Body of Persons to levy Money in the County to defray that Expense?
There is no general Law, with the Exception of the 59 Geo. 3. c. 61. referred to in Mr. Duff's Evidence, but there are particular Enactments with respect to Rogue Money and other Expenses.

You were understood to say there are Cases in which by Statute the additional Power of levying Money is given to meet the necessary Expense of the Gaols?
Yes; there are in different Places special Statutes varying in almost every Case.

By what Process is that Money levied in such Cases?
It varies according to the Provisions of each Statute.

Is it generally a Rate on Houses, or is there any general Principle on which it rests?
The Principle on which these Rates were made in Scotland originally was what is termed the Valued Rent, which is a very unequal Rate of Taxation; if there is to be any general Rule it should be on the real Value; some more recent Statutes levy it according to the real Rents; but I rather think in any general Measure it would be necessary to consider that Subject more fully than it has hitherto been done.

Who are the Authorities in whom the Management of these Gaols is vested, the Town Council?
The Gaols are considered usually to be under the Superintendence of the Sheriff and the Sheriff's Depute and the Magistrates of a Royal Burgh.

The Magistrates of the County have no Authority?
In most Instances the County Justices of the Peace have Authority to visit the Gaol.

That is under the later Act?
Yes.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland.

They have no general Authority?

I do not conceive they have a general Authority, but they would be entitled to have Access to the Gaol, and see the State it was in.

When you state that the Assessment under Local Acts of Parliament is usually made according to the valued Rent, that valued Rent only refers to Land, and does not comprise Houses?

Only to Land; the 59 Geo. 3. c. 59. refers to the valued Rent as to Land, and the annual Value as to Houses.

If the Number of Prisoners sent to any Gaol not regulated by a Local Act of Parliament should become so large as to be beyond the Means of the Burgh to maintain them, what would be done with such Persons?

An Application would be made, and has been made in some Instances, to the Court of Justiciary to pronounce an Order to transmit them—the Prisoners—to another Gaol, and that has been done where the Gaol has been found in bad Repair.

Upon whom would the Expense of the Transfer and the subsequent Maintenance fall; would it fall upon the Party that was originally bound to receive them, or upon the County whose Culprits were so numerous as to be beyond the Capability of the Prison?

I am not aware of the Question having been actually tried on whom it would fall, but I should apprehend that the Maintenance ought to fall on the Burgh to which they were originally committed, unless they were County Prisoners and there was any Statute regulating the Case.

Who pays the Expense of Prosecutions in Scotland?

The Crown in most Cases.

His Lordship withdraws.

James Loch, Esq. M. P.

JAMES LOCH, Esquire, a Member of the House of Commons, attending, is called in, and examined as follows:

Will you state your Opinion of the State and Condition of the Prisons in Scotland?

My Observations go more to the State of the Prisons in the North of Scotland than in other Parts of it. With regard to them, I may state generally, that they are in a Condition by no means fit for the Purposes to which they are applicable. In those Burghs I represent, of which there are Six, this is peculiarly the Case, with the Exception of the Gaol at Wick. As Instances of this I may mention, that upon the 1st of April I received an Application from the Provost and Magistrates of Tain in the County of Ross, stating, that in consequence of the small Accommodation in that Gaol and the Number of Prisoners, it was impossible for them to take any more Prisoners in, indeed that they thought it would be necessary to apply to Government for the Purpose of having some of them removed. I sent the Application to the then Lord Advocate, Sir William Rae, who, I believe, delivered it to Mr. Stewart Mackenzie, Member for the County, it being intended that a new Gaol should be erected under a Bill which was then in Parliament, and which it was proposed to pass this Session, but which a Non-compliance with the Standing Orders prevented their doing. The other Day I received another Application from the Town Clerk of Dornoch, another Burgh I represent, stating, that in consequence of the Small Pox having broken out in the Prison, and their having no Means of separating the Prisoners, they were at a Loss what to do. I went to the Secretary of State, who immediately made an Order that the Person infected should be removed into an adjoining House, and I believe the Person has been removed accordingly.

In the Burgh of Dingwall, another Burgh I represent, in the County of Ross, the Prison was in so bad a Condition that, by an Order of the Court of Session and of the Court of Justiciary, made in the Year 1830, it was shut up; that at Fortrose being out of repair, while in the distant and populous Island of Lewes there is no Place of Confinement whatever. The Committee are aware that the Counties of Ross and Cromarty are under the same Sheriff, and therefore that the Prison at Cromarty is one of the Prisons within the Two Counties

of which Prisoners may be committed, and there the Gaol is also in a most defective State, being a very small Place above the old Town House. In all those Burghs there are no Means, except in Tain, either to build or to repair their Gaols. The Town of Tain, having had a Property which was available for the Purpose of rebuilding and repairing their Gaol, laid out a considerable Sum of Money some Years ago in making the Gaol quite adequate to the Purposes in that District; but in consequence of a Fire which took place about Two Years ago that has been burnt, and therefore the whole of the large County of Ross is now actually without any Gaol fit for the Purpose of committing Prisoners to. In the County of Caithness, on the other Hand, the Prison there is in a very good Condition, some Years ago the County and the Burgh of Wick having agreed to apply to Parliament for the Purpose of assessing the County and the Burgh jointly; and that Assessment, together with a considerable private Subscription, has enabled the Magistrates of Wick to build a Gaol upon a much better Construction than any other that I know of in the North of Scotland. But if the Committee would permit me, I would observe, that the State of the Law in Scotland at present relative to the building of Gaols appears to me such, that unless the Government will undertake to bring in some new Measure we have no Chance of having them put on a better Footing than they are at present. The Committee, I believe, are aware that by the old Law of Scotland the Burghs of Scotland are bound each to maintain a Gaol; in most Cases their Means are quite unequal to doing that, and there has been a great Indisposition on the Part of the Country Gentlemen to be assessed, in order that Gaols sufficient for the Purpose should be made; and in such Cases where they have agreed to do it they have, in my Opinion, unfortunately adhered to the old Principle of keeping up Gaols in the different Burghs in their County, instead of making One Gaol sufficient for the Purposes of the whole County; and I may state that the Plan in the County of Ross was this, that the Assessment should be partly on the County and partly on the Burghs; but instead of having One sufficient Gaol for the County, it was thought necessary to have a Lock-up House in the Island of Lewes, besides appropriating a Part of their Money to build or repair a Gaol at Tain and another at Dingwall, and to repair those at Fortrose and Cromarty. So also let me state, that in the County of Elgin, where there are Two Burghs, the Burgh of Elgin and the Burgh of Forres, within Twelve Miles of each other, they obtained an Act of Parliament last Session to enable them to assess the County in aid of building new Gaols in each of those Places, for the Jealousy of the Two Burghs was such they would not agree that there should be One Gaol in the County Town for the whole County; and Mr. Cumming Bruce, a Gentleman of that County, has authorized me to state, that in consequence of your Lordships Committee now sitting upon the Subject they have suspended the building of those Two Gaols, in hopes that some public Measure may be adopted more complete, having for its Object a Plan to have Gaols sufficient for the Purposes of the whole County and the Two Burghs together. I should like also to remark, that there is a great Difficulty which they experienced in the North, arising from the Number of Counties joined into One Circuit, for your Lordships are aware that the Assizes are not held in each County in Scotland as they are in this Country, but in different Districts, and the District of the North consists of the Counties of Elgin, Nairn, Inverness, Ross, Sutherland, and Caithness; it is necessary, therefore, that all those Counties should transmit their Prisoners to Inverness to be tried, and then they are re-transmitted back again to the various Counties for the Purpose of Punishment, which increases greatly the Expense, and is in all respects very inconvenient; and it is extremely well worth Consideration, whether some Plan might not be adopted whereby a great Central Gaol or House of Correction might not be built for the Use of all the Counties, making smaller Gaols necessary more in the Nature of Lock-up Houses for each of the Counties separately. We have in the North sometimes thought that, without much Inconvenience to the Public, Fort George, a very large Building, and not now much used for the Purposes of national Defence, might be applied advantageously to that Purpose, and save a great deal of Expense. There was a Law passed in the 59th Geo. 3. c. 61., commonly known by the Name of Mr. Hunter Blair's Act, which was intended to meet the Difficulties I have mentioned, by which Burghs were entitled to Aid from the Counties in which they were placed; but it has been found so difficult to reconcile,

James Loch, Esq. M. P.

cile, without the direct Intervention of Parliament, the Interests of Counties and Burghs, that I do not know one single Instance in which that Statute has been acted on, so much so that there are many Cases, even since the passing of the 59 Geo. 3. c. 61., where the Counties and Burghs have come to an Arrangement, and come to Parliament and obtained Power to build Gaols; for instance, Inverness, Caithness, and Elgin, but which is clear Proof of the Insufficiency of the general Act for the Object for which it was passed. In Inverness they are proceeding with a new Gaol, but that is merely for the Purposes of the County and Burgh of Inverness, without any Relation to more general Purposes. In the same Way, if the Bill had gone through Parliament for the Counties of Ross and Cromarty, those Gaols were only calculated for their own Purposes. In the County of Sutherland they have suspended doing any thing 'till they see whether the Legislature adopt any more general Plan.

When you stated that the Bill for the Counties of Ross and Cromarty was framed on the Principle of a Part being levied from the County and a Part assessed on the Burgh, was that to be levied according to the valued Rent, that is the Rent of the Land, or to be levied on all the Rent of real Property?

I am not able to state that distinctly, but I think it was on the valued Rent.

When you state that the Act of the 59 Geo. 3. has not been carried into effect, can you explain to the Committee any Reasons which suggest themselves to you why it has not been carried into effect?

I believe, in the first instance, it has always been thought very difficult to get the Magistrates of the Burgh and the Commissioners of Supply to agree on the exact Proportions in which they should contribute to building the Gaol; but I may state also at the Time that when I took charge of a General Police Bill for Scotland, there were a great many Applications made, all wishing I could extend the Provisions of that Act so as to occasion better Gaols to be built in Scotland, and they stated that this was most desirable, because there were great Difficulties as to the Power of Assessment the Commissioners of Supply had under that Act. I should wish to impress upon the Committee that it is a most difficult Question altogether, and that there will be great Obstacles to any general Measure, for there is a great Dislike upon the Part of Country Gentlemen to any Assessment for the Purpose of making effectual Gaols, and that it may happen that one general Measure may not suit the whole Country; but in consequence of which it does appear to me that the better Way would be if there were some general Inquiry instituted into the particular Circumstances of the whole of Scotland, and personal Communication and Discussion had with the Persons of Influence and Information throughout the Country, and so that the Feelings and Opinions of the Country, as well as the Condition of the Gaols, the State of the Law, and the Wants of the public arising out of local Circumstances, may be fully before this House before they begin to legislate upon the Subject at all. Personal Communication and Discussion would do much to reconcile them to some Measure, to which as yet, from having never considered the Importance of the Subject, they are indifferent or adverse.

Do you think that a Commission should be appointed to inquire into the Subject?

I think a Commission would be the better Means of inquiring, for it would be necessary to visit all the Burghs in Scotland to observe their Condition, and to communicate with those who have an Interest in the Question to see whether some Plan might not be adopted, which would be agreed to by the Magistrates of the Burghs and the Country Gentlemen, previous to Measures being introduced. There is another very important Question they would have to consider, which is, the Magistrates of Burghs are answerable under the present Law for the Escape of Prisoners, and of course answerable to their Creditors; if there were County Gaols, there is a Question who would then be answerable.

Is there not a Difficulty in substituting a new Principle of local Taxation?

The Difficulty alluded to exists in a very great Degree, but I do not think it is impossible to get over that; I do not see why they should not recur to the last Assessment under the Property Tax.

Do you believe that the Prisons in Scotland are now in that Condition in

which they ought to be permitted to remain, either with respect to the Prisoners or to the Community at large?
Very much the reverse.

Do you propose that the District Gaols should be reserved for convicted Prisoners?
Yes.

Those convicted within that Range of Country you have described?
Yes, as regards Fort George; other Places may be found for other Parts of Scotland.

To what Prisons would you propose to send those Persons committed for Trial?
I would commit them to the County Gaols; my Notion is, that I should convert all the Burgh Gaols into County Gaols; I would adopt the Principle of a County Gaol in every County.

And a general Penitentiary for the Reception of convicted Prisoners?
Yes.

How would you propose to deal with Debtors?
I think there might be sufficient Accommodation provided in each County for those.

But quite separate from those Persons committed for Criminal Offences?
It certainly would be most desirable to do so.

The Debtors are now confined with the Criminals?
In most of the Prisons they are.

What is done now in Scotland with Persons who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?
I think the Counties have generally sent them to one of the Asylums, Inverness or Aberdeen or Perth, which are those the North of Scotland is mostly interested in.

Supposing a Person acquitted on the Ground of Insanity sent to one of those Asylums should be pronounced after a Time not to be insane, what would be done with him; are they authorized to keep him there whether sane or not?
I rather think I know a Case almost of that Sort, where the County would be obliged to maintain him in that Asylum for Life.

Is Fort George a healthy Situation?
Very.

Does your Proposal of sending the Prisoners to Fort George include those who have been convicted before the Sheriff for Sixty Days?
No; those convicted before the Court of Justiciary.

You propose there should be a separate Place for those convicted before the Sheriff or the Court of Session?
I would separate them from the Debtors.

You would separate them also from those not tried?
They should have the Power of Separation.

Do you not think it most desirable that convicted Prisoners should not associate with untried Prisoners?
I think it is very desirable; at the same Time I doubt very much whether the Advantages are so great as are anticipated, and the Reason I should give is this, that a Prisoner before Trial is probably a more dangerous Man to be allowed to mix with the young and unexperienced than a Prisoner after he is convicted, inasmuch as he has not the Fear of Punishment before him, and that he has it more in his Power to corrupt others than he has after his Conviction. I do not mean to say that a Separation ought not to take place, but that the Advantages are not quite so great as many have thought.

But he may be innocent?
Yes; but still I think that there is a great Difficulty in what I have stated, and which I never have been able to get over.

James Loch, Esq. M. P.

From your Knowledge of the Country, is there not a great Want of pecuniary Means for either adding to or keeping in repair the existing Gaols in the Country, or providing new ones where wanted, and in maintaining and classifying Prisoners properly therein?

Under the general Law there is in many Instances no Fund whatever. I know several Burghs in the North of Scotland not worth a Sixpence; they have no Property whatever; it is impossible that they should either repair or add to their present Prison Accommodation.

There are no Means under the general existing Law of the Country by which a Remedy could be provided against those Evils?

Certainly not, unless under the 59th Geo. 3, which, as I said before, has not been effectual.

Is it your Opinion that the best Mode of obtaining a comprehensive Measure to remedy the various Evils you and others have mentioned with respect to the Gaols in Scotland would be by the Appointment of a Commission to inquire and to report?

Certainly; that is decidedly my Opinion.

Do you think that would be the speediest Mode?

Yes; and I think the greatest possible Advantage would be derived from issuing that Commission.

Do you mean a Royal or a Parliamentary Commission?

A Royal Commission.

Would not a Parliamentary Commission have much greater Powers?

I should think a Royal Commission would have all the Powers that were necessary.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Sir W. Rae, Bart. M. P.

The Right Hon. Sir WILLIAM RAE, Bart., a Member of the House of Commons, attending, is examined as follows:

The Committee are anxious to know your Opinion of the present State and Condition of the Prisons in Scotland?

At one Time I paid great Attention to that Subject, but for the last Three or Four Years I have not had any particular Access to know generally the State of the Prisons in Scotland. I may observe, that owing to my having been Sheriff for the County of Edinburgh, where there was a very bad Gaol, I had in 1815 a considerable Share in providing a better one, and was led minutely to look into the Subject of Gaols. Afterwards, from holding the Situation of Lord Advocate, I took a great deal of pains to bring in a general Bill for the better Regulation of the Gaols in Scotland; but I found great Difficulties attending it. The last Proceeding adopted was the passing of a Bill requiring Counties and Burghs to make a special Report of the precise State of their Gaols and the Measures which might be best applied for their Improvement. The Reports which were in consequence furnished, I believe, contain pretty accurate Information as to the present State of the Gaols. I do not think that any extensive Improvement has since taken place.

Is not the Statement in the Reports very unsatisfactory as to the State of the Prisons?

I certainly consider it as such.

Do you think it expedient that a great Change should take place in the Prisons without Loss of Time?

It is certainly desirable that better Prisons should be provided in Scotland.

Do you think that a Committee of either House of Parliament would be enabled to inquire into and to decide upon what ought to be done as a Commission?

A Commission would ascertain Facts very accurately, but I should imagine that the Facts are sufficiently ascertained already to found any Parliamentary Proceeding. No one can be prepared to say that any Gaol in Scotland would not require Improvement.

Sir W. Rae, Bart. M. P.

Would you propose to tax the Counties for the Payment of the Expense of the Improvement of the Burgh Gaols?

I should think it very desirable if there is an Improvement to take place in our Gaols, that it should consist in the Substitution of a sufficient Gaol in the Place where the Sheriff holds his Court, instead of the Gaols we have now in every Burgh in Scotland; but great Difficulties attend the Subject of providing the Means.

If there was no Distinction between County Gaols and Burgh Gaols, would there be any Difficulty with respect to Jurisdiction?

The Magistrates of Burghs might be authorized to commit Prisoners to the County Gaol. The chief Difficulty would arise in the Case of Debtors. The Magistrates of Burghs are responsible for the Debtors confined in their own Gaols, of which they have the Management; but it would be a Question how far they could be made responsible for the Debt due by a Prisoner who should escape from a County Gaol.

Would it not be right to call upon the Gaolers to find Security?

That is the Mode observed in England, and might be followed in Scotland.

Would not this be the best Mode?

Very probably it is, provided the Situation could be made such as should induce a Person to take it who is able to find such Security. The Sheriff with us is merely a Judge, and no Responsibility could be thrown upon him.

What Rate would you propose to levy, and upon what Description of Property?

I would not be understood to say that I am prepared to give a precise Answer to that Question. Certainly it could not be imposed on Lands according to the valued Rent. That Valuation originated at the Time of the Commonwealth, and such a Change has since taken place in Property as to render that Valuation quite unequal in every point of view. The Assessment behoved to be of a much more equal Description, comprehending House Property as well as Land. An Objection arises here which obstructed the Course of my whole Proceedings in Parliament on the Subject; in order to provide suitable Means, it is quite plain that there must not only be an Assessment for the building of the Gaol, but for its future regular Maintenance. The Assessment must therefore be annual and permanent; and if, instead of being levied according to the valued Rent, it should rest on a just Principle, a County Rate would thus be established, which might hereafter be made to apply to other Objects besides Gaols. Such a Rate has hitherto been unknown in Scotland, and the Landed Interest has always been extremely averse to its Introduction. It was the Fear of such a Rate, however limited in Amount, which obstructed the whole Proceedings to which I have referred.

Upon what Principle has the Assessment been made in the Places where improved Gaols have been established?

On the Real Property of the County, including that within Burgh; but as such an Assessment is of a local and temporary Nature, the same Objection does not apply which would to a general and permanent Assessment. The Imposition has always been confined to the building of Gaols; in no Case that I am aware of has there been any Assessment for their Maintenance.

The Landed Interest in England and Wales is called on to pay the Expenses of Prosecutions; does the Landed Interest in Scotland pay for Prosecutions?

Not generally; the Expense of certain Prosecutions is defrayed from a Fund called the Rogue Money, which is payable by the Landowner.

Who pays the Salaries of the Gaolers and Officers of the Prisons?

The Royal Burghs.

Does the County pay any Part of the Expense for the Maintenance of the Prisons?

No.

Is not that a great Hardship on the Burghs?

Yes, it is felt so, but the Law has imposed it upon them.

Sir W. Rae, Bart. M.P.

If the Expenses exceed the Means of the Burghs, what Course is pursued?
It is a Case of very great Difficulty; I have known the Thing happen. 'Till lately the Rule was not strictly observed that Burghs should maintain Criminal Prisoners subsequent to Conviction. The Counties did in many Cases provide the Aliment; but at last a Question was raised, and it was held by the Court of Session that the Burghs were alone subject to the Maintenance of Prisoners after Conviction.

By whom are the Expenses of maintaining Prisoners before Trial paid?
Out of the Rogue Money, when the Prisoners are committed by the Warrant of a County Magistrate.

How is the Rogue Money raised?
By the Commissioners of Supply on the valued Rent.

As the Law now stands, the Landed Interest in England and Wales not only pays the Expense of Prosecutions in their several Counties, but also are called upon to defray the Expense of the Prosecutions in Scotland?
Until within these Three or Four Years the Expense of Criminal Prosecutions in Scotland chiefly formed a Charge on the King's Hereditary Revenues in that Country. When those Revenues were surrendered by the Crown, and made Part of the Consolidated Fund, the Expenses no Doubt came to be voted in Parliament; but the History of this Matter ought to be attended to. Anciently the Criminal Jurisdiction in Scotland was mainly held by Individuals under Hereditary Tenures; such Jurisdiction formed Matter of Gain to the Holder, as the Punishment frequently inflicted consisted of the Imposition of Fines and Forfeitures, which were appropriated by the Holder. These Hereditary Jurisdictions were all abolished during the Reign of George the Second, the Holders receiving pecuniary Compensation for the Loss which they thereby sustained. When the Crown thus appropriated the Jurisdictions, together with the Gains arising from Fines and Forfeitures, it justly became subject to the Expenses attending the Exercise of such Jurisdiction. No Doubt a great Change has now taken place both in the Number of Criminals and the Nature of Punishment; still I conceive that the Burden rests where it ought, whether we look to Principle or to the Detail of Circumstances which I have now referred to.

During the Maintenance of Heritable Jurisdictions the Burghs were bound to maintain the Gaols and receive the Prisoners?
Yes.

What is the Nature of the Fund belonging to Burghs applicable to Gaols?
The Common Good, consisting in some Instances of Lands and Feu Duties, in other Instances of Market Tolls, Shore Dues, &c.

Have the Burghs any Power to levy a Rate if those Sources are insufficient?
Certainly not.

Was not the Burden of maintaining the Prisoners by ancient Law imposed upon the Burghs as a Compensation for the Privileges they were supposed to derive?
Yes, certainly.

You have expressed some Doubt whether any additional Facts could be obtained by the Appointment of a Commission; what Course would you then recommend to get rid of the Abuses which at present exist?
If no additional Facts are to be obtained, all that would be got by a Commission would be the Opinion of that Commission as to the Remedy. I should think the Opinion of a Committee of the House of Lords would be a better Source from which to draw a sound Conclusion than any Commission. I see no Reason why, if the whole Facts be ascertained, the Government should not deal with the Subject in the Way which may be recommended in such Report.

From your Knowledge of the Subject, do you think the Facts are sufficiently known and established to render it expedient to call upon the Government to bring in a Bill?
A Commission certainly could do no Harm, and it might examine the State of

Sir W. Rae, Bart. M.P.

of the Gaols and meet the Parties interested in them, and see whether the Counties and Burghs would not undertake what may be necessary in respect of their Gaols. In this Way a Commission might practically do Good. It appears to me that the only Way in which those Parties will be induced to improve their Gaols will be through the Medium of Private Acts of Parliament; and that by a Commission furnishing them with Information, urging them to do what is necessary, a good deal might be accomplished.

Your Opinion is, that a comprehensive Measure, embracing the whole Country with regard to its Gaols, could not be accomplished?

I think it would meet with very great Opposition. There is a Danger of Opposition, in the first place, from the new Constituency. You could not throw this Burthen merely on the Land; it must be laid on other Property, and Persons would be subjected who have never paid any Part of such a Burden. I do not know how that would be received by the Description of Persons to whom I have alluded. Again, the Landed Proprietors would feel an Objection to such a Measure, as throwing a Burden upon them they have not borne hitherto, and still more as tending to the Establishment of a County Rate. I despaired of legislating in the Face of those Difficulties, and nothing leads me to think that those Objections are not equally strong now as at the Period to which I allude.

Would you recommend, in such an embarrassing Situation of Affairs, that a Commission should be appointed for the Purpose of obtaining more Information?

It would doubtless be wise to attempt something of that Description.

Do you not think that if the People of Scotland were aware that the State of their Gaols is such as to occasion a great Increase of Crime, that they would not refuse to abandon the Points in dispute, and join in an Endeavour to prevent their Prisons from continuing to be the Schools of Crime?

They would not dispute the Propriety of the Thing, but they would dispute the Means of doing it. In many of our Gaols the Number of the Prisoners is not such as to lead to much Risk of Contamination.

Are you not aware that in the Return you have alluded to it appears that some of the Prisons are so insecure that the Gaolers are obliged to place Irons upon the Prisoners before Trial, because they have not a Wall to prevent their Escape?

One Object in passing the Act which required Returns of the State of Prisons was to compel the Gentlemen to make that minute Inspection of their Gaols which behoved to precede the furnishing the Return. I thought that by witnessing those Evils they would be so much ashamed of them that they would voluntarily provide a Remedy.

Are there not in many of the Prisons Men and Women confined together in the same Rooms?

I see by the Returns that such Things have occurred.

Who erected the Prison at Glasgow, which is reported to be one of the best in Scotland?

The City Magistrates. It is the Burgh Gaol. They have a Bridewell besides at Glasgow. I do not know whether the County may not contribute to it. I conceive that it would be very desirable if in Scotland we had some District Gaols for the Confinement of Prisoners after Conviction, where they could be put under proper Discipline.

Do you think Fort George could be converted into a House of Correction for that Part of Scotland?

It is a very good Situation. The Number of sick Prisoners in the Northern Counties is not such as to require any very extensive Accommodation of this Description. The chief Difficulty would be in providing the Funds for the Expense of the Gaolers and the Establishment; for as to the Aliment, that might be thrown upon the different Jurisdictions from whence the Commitments proceeded. If Government would pay the Expense of such an Establishment, the Matter would be easy.

Sir W. Rae, Bart. M. P.

Might not the great Prison at Perth be converted into a House of Correction, at a very moderate Expense, for the Seven or Eight adjoining Counties?

Yes; and there is one also at Greenlaw near Edinburgh, and Dumbarton Castle might answer for the West of Scotland; but no District Prison would render unnecessary a proper Prison in every County.

You would propose to have County Gaols and District Gaols as Houses of Correction for Persons after Trial?

Yes. A County Prison is indispensable for the Custody of Debtors, and for the Detention of Criminals when under Examination, or whose Cases are undergoing Investigation before the Sheriff, for their farther Detention until the Opinion of the Crown Counsel is obtained whether there is to be a Trial or not, and in all Cases where the Trial is to take place before the Sheriff, or where his Sentence is that of a short Imprisonment.

Upon the whole, what Plan would you suggest to the Committee?

As an intermediate Measure, the only one is a Commission, if your Lordships are not prepared, from what you see, to recommend a general Act of Parliament.

Would you prefer a Commission to recommending that the King's Government should undertake it?

A Commission might be preferable in the first instance. It was the decided Opinion of the Select Committee to whom the Bill I have alluded to was referred, that the Government rather than an Individual ought to bring in a general Measure of this Kind.

There are other Gaols besides those kept up by Royal Burghs?

There are small Gaols of Burghs of Regality and Burghs of Barony; they are not used generally for the Detention of Prisoners for any Length of Time.

Those in Burghs of Regality are generally used for the Confinement of Prisoners committed for minor Offences?

Yes.

Are you aware that the Gaols in the Burghs of Barony are frequently the private Property of Individuals who have the Superiority of that Barony?

I have no Doubt that is the Case in some Instances. I may observe, that in many of the Gaols in the North of Scotland they complain of the Number of Excise Prisoners and of Soldiers for whom Accommodation is to be provided. In the Case of the Revenue Prisoners there is, besides, no Fund provided in many Instances for their Aliment; it is discretionary with the Board whether they will allow Aliment or not; and if this is incautiously withheld, which sometimes happens, the Burgh Funds are subjected to the Expense of maintaining Crown Prisoners, which is a great Hardship.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. W. Keene.

Mr. WILLIAM KEENE is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Governor of the House of Correction at Guildford?

I am.

Is it your Practice to weigh the Prisoners once every Month?

It is; I weigh all those committed for above a Month.

Have you got the Weighing Book here?

I have.

Do they in general lose Weight the first Two Months?

Generally they lose the first Two Months, and then gain the Third and Fourth Month again.

What is the Result with respect to longer Periods?

They generally set out at that, and seldom alter after that.

There

There is a Difference, of course, with respect to Vagrants who may be committed in a State of great Destitution?
Yes, they gain at first.

When you say that they gain after the first Two Months, do they at the End of that Period exceed their original Weight?
No, they do not; the Females, I think, generally gain.

Do you work Females on the Tread-mill?
Yes; but their Labour is not so hard as that of the Males. The Allowance of Bread has been shortened within the last Six Weeks; that may alter the Weight of them perhaps. Here is one—a Man came in, February the 11th, at Eleven Stone Five Pounds, the next Month he was Eleven Stone, the next Ten Stone Six Pounds; he was discharged at Ten Stone Three Pounds. Another Man came in, February the 12th, Ten Stone Ten Pounds, on the next Weighing Day, the 5th of March, he was Ten Stone Nine Pounds, the following Month Ten Stone Five Pounds, and the following Month he was Ten Stone.

The following Statement is delivered in and read:

	4th Dec.	26th Dec.	5th Feb.	5th March.	3d April.	1st May.
	st. lbs.	*st. lbs.*	*st. lbs.*	*st. lbs.*	*st. lbs.*	*st. lbs.*
H. D. -	7 8	7 9	7 10	7 11	7 8	7 10
M. H. -	8 7	8 4	8 7	8 6	8 2	8 5
W. N. -	10 10	10 7	10 1	9 9	9 3	9 4
J. C. - -	11 2	11 7	10 12	10 12	10 10	10 10
G. J. -	10 6	10 2	10 1	10 2	10 1	10 4
J. B. -	8 7	8 7	8 2	8 0	8 0	7 13
J. B. -	8 1	8 0	7 6	7 7	7 7	7 8
B. M. -	8 6	8 6	8 7	8 3	7 11	7 13
W. C. -	6 8	6 9	7 0	7 0	6 13	6 12
G. M. -	8 2	8 2	7 12	7 11	7 9	7 8
M. A. W.	7 5	7 11	8 3	8 4	7 11	7 11
T. B. -	8 12	9 3	9 0	8 10	8 7	8 9
	14th Jan.	5th Feb.	5th March.	3d April.	1st May.	
C. P. -	10 7	10 8	10 5	9 11	9 7	
J. B. -	6 4	6 4	6 7	6 3	6 5	
S. A. -	8 8	8 10	9 0	9 0	9 3	
J. T. -	9 4	9 5	9 5	9 2	9 3	
W. J. -	8 5	8 5	8 4	8 4	8 8	
M. A. -	8 7	9 0	8 13	8 12	8 11	
R. M. -	8 8	8 5	7 12	7 9	7 10	
G. F. -	7 13	8 1	8 1	7 9	7 7	
F. E. -	8 2	8 2	8 3	8 1	8 1	
S. M. -	7 12	8 4	8 6	8 7	8 2	
E. S. -	11 9	12 1	12 0	11 7	11 6	
D. R. -	8 2	8 4	8 0	7 12	7 11	
J. C. -	9 0	9 0	8 11	8 7	8 10	

Do you think that it is desirable that Prisoners should be kept separate as much as possible?
Certainly I do.

Do you keep them separate in Guildford House of Correction?
Yes, nearly the whole of them at Night; they work on the Wheel in their different Classes.

Are there any Divisions or Compartments on the Tread-wheel?
No, only in Classes.

You think it would be desirable to keep them in separate Cells if possible?
Yes.

You do not allow them to converse with one another when on the Tread-mill?
Certainly not.

Mr. W. Keene.

You do not allow them to receive other than the Gaol Allowance?
No.

Do you allow them to receive Visits from their Friends?
Yes, we do.

On specific Days, or whenever they procure an Order from a Magistrate?
On specific Days, under the Order of a Magistrate.

Do you think it advisable that Persons who are imprisoned for a less Term than Six Calendar Months should be allowed to receive Visits from their Friends?
I think that would be a great Punishment to the Prisoners, and be a great Benefit in respect to Prison Discipline. Some of them have Friends come to see them almost every Week.

You have no Means of knowing who the Persons are who come to see the Prisoners?
No, only the Country Prisoners; but I cannot tell who are the Persons who come to see the London Prisoners.

Are the London Prisoners the most depraved?
I consider that they are, and we have almost all London Prisoners.

Have you a Crank-wheel at Guildford?
No.

The Prisoners in the Guildford House of Correction have Iron Bedsteads?
They have.

The Classification in Guildford House of Correction is strictly in accordance with the Enactments and Regulations of the Gaol Act?
Quite so.

Do you find the Classification of any Use?
I do not know. A great Number of the Prisoners under summary Convictions are London Prisoners, and are more depraved in Character than the Country Felons, or quite equal to the Felons who are London Thieves.

Does the Chaplain devote the whole of his Time to the Duties of Guildford House of Correction?
He has no other Duty to attend to; he is there every Day.

What is his Salary?
£125 per Annum.

What is the average Number of Prisoners in your Custody?
The Average has been 115, but at the present Time there are but 108 in Custody; within the last Three Months there have been as many as 135.

Does the Chaplain give Two full Services on Sunday?
Yes.

Does he read Prayers on other Days?
On Tuesdays and Thursdays; he reads Morning Service on other Days; he expounds the Scriptures, and reads a short Prayer from a private Book of his own.

Does he visit the Prisoners separately?
Yes, he does, in their Cells.

He exhorts them afterwards in the Chapel?
Yes, he does.

Have you a Schoolmaster?
Yes; one of the Turnkeys acts as Schoolmaster.

Under the Direction of the Chaplain?
Yes.

Silence has been for some Time in force in Guildford House of Correction?
Ever since I have known the Prison, in my Father's Time, it was always enforced while at Labour on the Wheel.

Mr. W. Keene.

Is it strictly enforced?
We cannot enforce it entirely, for if the Turnkey is away for a Minute, the Men will be talking.

Do you conceive it might be enforced by the Employment of additional Turnkeys?
It might be, I have no Doubt.

Is it the same with respect to the Females?
The same with respect to them; we have but One Female Turnkey, and she is obliged to come out occasionally, and they are left alone, and have an Opportunity of speaking to each other.

Has not an additional Female Turnkey been appointed?
Yes; the Matron always superintends the Laundry, and the Female Turnkey superintends the Tread-mill; when she has Occasion to come out from the Tread-wheel they are left by themselves.

Before this Appointment there was no one but the Matron?
No.

Are the Female Prisoners mostly from London?
Most of them; very few Country Women.

Are they not as depraved as are to be found in any Prison?
I should conceive they are; they are principally Girls out of the Borough, and sometimes we have had great Trouble with them.

Are the Women frequently recommitted?
Several of them; there are Three or Four now who have been in the Prison Three or Four Times.

Have you seen the improved Tread-wheel, with the Rail revolving on Wheels?
No, I have not; I have never seen any other Tread-mill but that at Guildford.

Is there any Suggestion you wish to offer to the Committee?
No; I have been only Twelve Months Governor of the Prison.

Do the Turnkeys board within the Prison?
No; they receive a Pound and a Half of Bread each from the Prison.

Do they sleep within the Prison?
One of them sleeps without the Prison. We have Four Male Turnkeys.

Do you think it would be desirable that they should all sleep within the Prison?
I do not know; we have Three, and have never had Occasion to call them up; when any one is taken ill in the Night I get up myself.

Does the Surgeon attend the Prison every Day?
Yes.

Does he live in the Town of Guildford?
Yes.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Monday next,
One o'Clock.

Die Lunæ, 1° *Junii* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Mr. THOMAS CLARKSON NEAL is called in, and further examined as follows:

Do you produce now an exact Model of the Gaol at Springfield?
Yes.

You are of opinion that separate Cells are desirable?
Yes.

If a Prison was so crowded as not to permit the Confinement of every Prisoner in a separate Cell, what Class of Prisoners should you recommend keeping separate?
The Prisoners before Trial.

To prevent their being contaminated?
Yes.

Supposing you had not separate Cells enough, what System of Classification would you recommend?
The Prisoners that had been tried and were as nearly as possible of the same Description I should put into the larger Cells that we had for that Purpose; I should select Prisoners of all Classes that had been convicted, and keep each Class to themselves.

Suppose you were forced to put only a few more than One in a Cell, how would you select them; who would you put together?
I should put those that I considered the worst Prisoners, and that were going to be removed early.

How many should you put in one Cell?
I have been from Necessity obliged to put as many as Twelve or Fourteen in the Prison I have now, but I should not do so by Choice.

Supposing you had a few over your Number, how many would you put into a Cell together?
I should never put more than Three if I could avoid it.

You would prefer separate Cells, but if obliged to place more than One you would place Three?
Yes.

Then the Description you would put together are those that were convicted and about to be transported?
Yes, I should prefer them.

Why?
Because I think I should not make them worse than they are already.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

The Reverend WILLIAM QUARTERMAN is called in, and examined as follows:

You are Chaplain of the Ganymede Hulk at Woolwich?
Yes.

Rev. W. Quarterman.

How long have you been Chaplain of that Hulk?
Eight Years and a Half.

What is your Salary?
It is at present £100 a Year; it has been raised a Twelvemonth. I was Seven Years at £50. I should state, it is a Branch Ship from the Arsenal, and I have been considered merely as an Assistant Chaplain; my Salary is lower on that Account.

In whose Appointment are the Chaplains of the Convict Ships?
The Secretary of State for the Home Department.

What are the Number of Prisoners now on board the Ganymede?
About 460, including the Leven's Men; the Occurrence Book kept in the Ganymede includes the Number contained in both Ships.

Will you state what Duty you perform in the Ganymede?
I am engaged to perform the Service on Sundays, on Good Friday, and on Christmas Day; but I have not confined it to that; I have occasionally gone to the Ship Two or Three Times a Week, and desired the Master of the Ship, as I reside close to the Dockyard Gate, if at any Time a Man misconducted himself, and he required my Attendance, that I hoped he would send for me; that has never occurred; but I generally visit Three Times a Week; I will not say that I confine myself to that; sometimes I am there every Day; about Four Years ago I had a Skiff, and One of the Men took care of it for me, and then I was there every Day during the Summer.

Have you any other Preferment?
I have the Lectureship of Woolwich; I had the Curacy and Lectureship, and the Two were too much for me; and on resigning the Curacy I was written to by Mr. Capper to know if I would take this Duty on board the Ganymede; that is to say, every Sunday throughout the Year, and Good Friday and Christmas Day. At that Time there were Two Ships, and I had Two Services; but Mr. Capper stated to me that he had a Plan in contemplation which would do away with the Second Service in a few Months, and of course, as the Second Service was so shortly to be done away with, I accepted it.

There is now but One Service on board the Ganymede?
We have a Chapel; Captain Warren has given us a Shed on Shore which we call the Chapel, and now the Prisoners of each Ship meet in the Chapel.

You perform the Duty to look to the Prisoners confined in the Ganymede and also in the Leven?
So far, that I was engaged to take the Sunday Duty; not living on board, I do not attend to the Prayers in the Evening.

How many Prisoners are there on board the Leven?
About 120; it varies according to Circumstances; they are included in the Ganymede's Number.

You have stated that you have been in the habit of visiting the Prisoners on board the Ganymede; have you also visited the Prisoners in the Leven Hulk in the same Manner?
Yes.

You say that you are in the habit of visiting the Prisoners on board the Ganymede Two or Three Times a Week; do you visit the Prisoners on board the Leven as often?
I consider the Prisoners on board the Leven and Ganymede as one; I do not go on board the Leven at all.

But you do go on board the Ganymede?
Yes; the Overseer lives there, and when I go to the Dockyard I go to him, and I see him there.

Are the Committee to understand that you visit the Prisoners on board the Ganymede, and that you do not visit the Prisoners on board the Leven?
I do not hold any Intercourse with the Prisoners; when I say I visit, I go to the Manager and make this Inquiry, but I do not go and inspect the Prisoners,

Prisoners, or hold any Intercourse with them, except upon Deck; we meet occasionally at the Muster, and so forth, but I do not carry it to the Extent of visiting the Prisoners. *Rev. W. Quarterman.*

Then the only Motive for your going on board the Ganymede is to inquire of the Manager of the Ganymede whether there is any thing that should make it expedient for you to speak to any of the Prisoners?
Yes, exactly so.

But, unless at his Suggestion, you do not visit the Prisoners on board the Ganymede any more than those on board the Leven?
Yes.

And in that Case he would represent to you any thing on board the Leven as well as in the Ganymede?
Yes; they are considered as one.

Then in fact the Prisoners on board the Ganymede and Leven receive no Religious Instruction whatever, with the Exception of One Service upon the Sunday and Good Friday?
None.

Is there a Schoolmaster?
There is not; Two or Three Convicts act as Schoolmasters.

Is there not a Chaplain to the Justitia Hulk, which is stationed off the Arsenal at Woolwich?
Yes.

Is there any Religious Instruction given in that Hulk?
I should say, as far as I know, not, except on Sunday.

The only Religious Instruction on Sunday is the Performance of One full Service, with a Sermon?
Yes, it is.

In the Return the Leven does not appear to be mentioned?
That has only lately been brought down.

It is not a Hospital Ship?
No.

Is there a Hospital Ship?
Not in the Dockyard; immediately a Man is taken ill he is sent down to the Hospital Ship off the Arsenal.

Are there many Prisoners on board the Hospital Ship?
Yes, upon the Average 50 or 60; immediately a Man is taken ill he is sent down to the Hospital Ship, he is then considered under the Care of the Chaplain of the Hulk off the Arsenal.

Do you make Half-yearly Reports to Mr. Capper?
Yes.

At what Periods?
In January and July.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

JOHN HENRY NAIRN is called in, and examined as follows: *John Henry Nairn.*

You have had Means of knowing how the Prisoners conducted themselves in Coldbath Fields Six Years since?
Yes.

Will you state your Opinion of the Propagation of Crime by the Intercourse between Prisoners?
I think the Classification at present is bad, in consequence of the one telling the other.

John Henry Nairn.

Do you think it would be an Improvement if they were kept in separate Cells, and not permitted to speak to one another on the Tread-mill?

It would be a great Improvement. It is also very bad that some of the worst Felons are often confined with Persons imprisoned merely for Misdemeanors; sometimes a Man is taken before a Magistrate for travelling about the Country to sell Goods without a Licence; if he has not the Power of paying the Fine he is sent to the House of Correction among other Prisoners of very bad Character. I have known a Burglar who has been taken with his Tools in his Possession, for committing a Burglary, in the same Yard with a Prisoner who had been imprisoned for a Fine; and I think a Man was very often made a bad Character when he would otherwise have been an honest Man.

Do you think that in the Prisons the Thieves teach one another and plan Robberies?

No Question of it.

To any great Extent?

Yes, I should say to a great Extent. A great deal of Crime is generated outside of the Prisons in consequence of the Tradesmen who employ Journeymen to work for them at Gentlemen's Houses not taking care to inquire into their good Character; by getting acquainted with the Servants they get a Knowledge of those Parts of the House where any thing valuable is kept. A Number of the Men that were in that Prison were Painters, Plasterers, and Bricklayers; they were in the Practice of communicating with Thieves, and it is in that secret Manner that they get Information where Property is kept.

Do you think that many went out much more experienced Thieves than when committed?

Many went out with the view of making themselves the Associates of Thieves, instead of practising their Calling as they had before done.

Do you think an innocent Man committed for Trial would prefer being placed in a separate Cell to being placed in a Yard with bad Characters?

I think there are Characters that would prefer it, and those are Persons of a superior Education to the Generality. I should think a Man of Education would prefer almost solitary Confinement to being turned into a Yard with those Men, although solitary Confinement is the greatest Punishment that you can give a Felon, and they complain of that more than any thing else.

You are aware that there is a great deal of Difference between separate Confinement and solitary Confinement?

Yes; a Thief dreads solitary Confinement more than any other Punishment.

Do you think that many of the Prisoners went out intending to lead a better Life?

That has been my Advice to them, and they have made sacred Promises both to myself and to the Governor; but unfortunately I have had the Misfortune of seing them return again for other Crimes; some of them had not been out above a Week, and others a Fortnight, and others a Month, and others Two or Three; the general Complaint was the Want of Character, that they could not get Employment, and they were obliged to go thieving again.

Do you suppose that they ever planned Robberies within the Prison which were to be afterwards executed?

I have no Doubt of it, and that juvenile Offenders made Appointments to meet outside after the Imprisonment had elapsed.

In what Class of Life are you?

I am an Accountant.

Speaking generally, during the Time that you were acquainted with the State of Coldbath Fields Prison, were there more Prisoners guilty of serious Offences who were educated, or more who were uneducated?

I should consider more of the uneducated Class than of the others; I always found Men of Education despise Robbery if they could get their Living in any other Way.

Were

Were the Painters and those you have alluded to generally educated or uneducated?

Generally ignorant Men.

Could not they read and write?

Some of them.

Are not the Carpenters generally rather of superior Education?

I have not found it so; they were Journeymen.

Did you see any Instances of the Wardsmen behaving with Partiality towards the Prisoners or ill using others?

Yes, I have, upon several Occasions; the Turnkeys were not free from showing Partiality. We have known Turnkeys make it a Business to visit the Friends of the Prisoners under their particular Lock, for the Purpose of getting Money from them, and holding out to the Prisoners Friends that they would show them some Indulgence, and Presents were sent to the Prisoners, brought in by the Turnkeys; it was generally their Business, when they were off the Key, to employ themselves in that Way, and that was the Way in which they made up the Deficiency of what was allowed them as regards their Livelihood, for I think the Pay has ever been too small to keep a Man from Temptation as a Turnkey.

Were all the Wardsmen Prisoners?

The Wardsmen were all Prisoners.

Of those that were confined for great Crimes, did you observe whether they were generally educated or uneducated Men?

I have found them both.

Have you any other Observation to offer to the Committee upon the Subject of Prisons or the Discipline of Prisons?

I am not aware of any at present.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Saturday next, Twelve o'Clock.

Die Sabbati, 6° Junii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

The Right Honourable the Lord GODOLPHIN is examined as follows:

Are you one of the Visiting Magistrates of the County Gaol of Cambridge?
I am.

Has your Lordship turned your Attention much to Prison Discipline, and the State and Condition of the Cambridge County Gaol?
I have.

Have the goodness to state your Opinion of it?
The Construction of the Prison is exactly the same as the one at Bury. There are Ten Wards, and one great Difficulty is, that out of those Ten Two of the largest are occupied by Debtors, and occasionally when there is a Female Debtor, or more than One, they take Three; that reduces us very much in point of Number. We are then very unfortunately circumstanced as to the Town; we have all the convicted Prisoners at the Assizes sent to the County Gaol to undergo their Punishment or to be transported at the Expense of the County; we have had a great deal of Trouble with the different Judges to try to get a Change, but the Argument is, that they come into the Power of the Sheriff when they are brought into Court, and that they cannot be taken out again. I refer to the Prisoners convicted for Offences in the Town, and brought from the Town Gaol to be tried. Directly they come into Court they are held to be in the Power of the Sheriff; the Sheriff having no Jurisdiction over the Town, the Consequence is, that it adds greatly to our Expenses. We have, besides, all the Debtors from the Isle of Ely, and where we have no Jurisdiction, and all the Debtors from the Town. I think the Gaol is as well managed as any; there is no Doubt an opening for Improvement; and I think our Dietary is particularly good.

Can your Lordship state the Details of the Dietary?
I can; we reckon it a very low one; the Prisoners on the Tread-mill have Two Pounds and a Half of Bread and a Quart of Gruel a Day, and nothing else.

Every Day the same?
Yes.

What is your Observation as to the Health of the Prisoners?
Our present System has been in operation about a Year; we began it in very hot Weather last Summer; it was watched very attentively by the Surgeon, and we went upon the Plan, that if we found the Labour too much for the Food we would reduce the Labour and not increase the Food; they work Ten Hours a Day exclusive of Meal Times and Chapel, upon this Diet, and they are certainly in as good Health as before; there are but Four Cases of Invalids out of Thirty Prisoners at this Time.

Do you know the Amount of Labour on the Tread-mill?
I think it is equal to about Six Miles in the Day, but I cannot speak accurately on this Point.

Do you know the Distance between the Steps?
It has been measured, but I do not recollect it; but it is a light Mill, I think lighter than most of them.

They come off the Tread-mill by Divisions?
Yes, they come off occasionally; they are regularly changed.

Lord Godolphin.

What Proportion are off?
I cannot speak to that.

Is your Lordship aware how many Prisoners can labour on the Tread-mill at the same Time?
I believe about Fifteen on each Wheel.

How much per Week does the Diet of each Prisoner cost the County?
That I cannot speak to. The other Prisoners have a Pound and a Half of Bread a Day, and nothing else.

Both before and after Trial?
After Trial, and under Sentence without hard Labour, they have a Pound and a Half of Bread, and nothing else, and previous to Trial a Pound and a Half of Bread, and what their Friends may give them. No Liquor of course, but merely Eatables.

No convicted Prisoner, excepting in Cases of Sickness, is allowed to receive any thing beyond the Gaol Allowance?
No. I tried to get them a Proportion of Potatoes instead of Bread on the Sunday, but I was over-ruled by the other Magistrates; I thought the Change, as it was rather less expensive to the County, would be beneficial, as they were anxious to have it, but the Magistrates negatived it.

Was that Representation of your Lordship in consequence of your thinking it necessary?
No; but I thought it was a very trifling Favour to grant; the Men asked for it, and the Expense would have been rather less than the Bread.

How much Potatoes did you propose to give them on Sunday?
I do not recollect the exact Quantity.

Were they to have Potatoes at each Meal on Sundays?
I do not recollect the exact Distribution proposed. I wish to mention, with respect to the Rules being signed by the Judges, and allowed by them, our Gaol has been going on I should think at least Ten Years since we first made Application to have a new Set of Rules signed, and we have never been able to get them signed, and I am not sure that they are signed now.

Is that in consequence of the Judges objecting to any of the proposed Rules?
No. I have applied; the Clerk of the Peace has applied; I have applied when I was Foreman of the Grand Jury, and individually. They have taken them on the Circuit; they said they had not Time to look them over, and we heard no more of them 'till the next Assizes. I have some Idea Lord Abinger signed them this Time, but I am not quite certain; I am not quite sure that there have been any Rules signed since the Tread-mills were invented; they were signed by Judge Grose, who has been dead many Years. At the End of the Circuit the Judges Commission expires, and we must wait 'till the next Assize.

You are of opinion it would be far preferable that the Rules and Regulations should be submitted to the Secretary of State for his Sanction, instead of, as at present, to the Judges of Assize?
Undoubtedly.

Would not this Mode be the only Way of securing Uniformity in the Rules and Regulations in the various Prisons?
Certainly.

Do you not think Uniformity of Discipline very desirable?
I think it certainly desirable that the Prisoners in one County should be punished in the same Manner as the Prisoners in another; the Crime is the same, and the Punishment ought to be the same; but that is not at all the Case now.

Is Silence enacted in the Cambridge County Gaol?
Not to the Extent it is practised in some other Gaols; they are shut up in their Cells during Dinner and at their other Meals. We keep the Prisoners on the Wheel as silent as we can with the small Number of Turnkeys we have.

Lord Godolphin.

In the Cambridge County Gaol there are not Divisions on the Tread-mill?
No.

Does not your Lordship think it desirable that there should be Divisions?
I am not sure that Silence might not be effected without those Divisions.

You would be obliged to employ more Officers in that Case?
Whenever I have seen the Mill at work it appears to me there is very little talking going on; one cannot judge exactly from what is the Case just when a Visiting Magistrate is present; but it appears to me it is not a likely Time for them to talk much.

When they are in separate Cells can they hear each other?
I should think not; but then comes the Question as to the Debtors; the Debtors Yard is separated from the other by a very low Wall, about Ten or Twelve Feet high; every thing may be said or may be thrown over. The Debtors have Flutes and Fiddles; there is no Restriction upon them at all as to Diet beyond Spirituous Liquors; they are allowed, I think, a Quart of Ale a Day, at their own Expense of course; and all their Friends, the worst of the Population of Cambridge, are constantly there, and we cannot prevent their seeing them.

Are the Male Debtors allowed to receive Female Visitors?
I cannot say; we have no Control at all over the Debtors; they are always surrounded by a Host of Attornies who would watch very strictly any Control, and would take Advantage of any Attempt to control them. Then as to Classification, as nearly as we can we classify under the Act of Parliament, which goes by Crime, which, I think, with due Submission, very objectionable; for instance, we have now Three Women in the Castle, one is a Girl that was committed by myself for the most trifling Felony, stealing an Egg out of a Hen's Nest. I did it very unwillingly, but there was no Doubt of the Fact; that Woman I believe to be an innocent Woman, independent of this small Crime; she is committed for the Sessions; she will have been there Three Months before she is tried. Of the other Two Women, one is a Prostitute from Cambridge sent in by the Vice Chancellor, and the other is of the same Sort. The first is inclined to reform; the second very hardened. These Three Women must be kept each separate from the other; it is not possible to class those Three Individuals, and therefore this Girl who stole the Egg in fact is undergoing solitary Confinement previous to Trial for the slightest possible Offence. There is another Case which may happen, and I dare say does occasionally in other Gaols; a Man under Sentence of Imprisonment for Sodomy for Two Years; he takes up a whole Ward to himself; it is quite impossible to classify very satisfactorily without more Room.

Is your Lordship to be understood that all the Prisoners in the Cambridge County Gaol have their Dinners in separate Cells?
In their sleeping Cells.

There is no Difficulty as to Classification if separate Cells were provided for every Prisoner?
Then it becomes solitary Confinement, and there is no Classification at all necessary.

It may be solitary or not, as the Gaoler or others are permitted to talk to them?
No Gaoler goes unless in the Course of his Duty; but it appears to me a hard Case that an untried Individual should be put into solitary Confinement habitually for Three Months.

What is the Size of the Cells?
I do not recollect that.

Would your Lordship think it preferable that the Woman you have alluded to now in Prison charged with stealing an Egg should be kept in a light and separate Cell, giving her the Option of Employment, and paying her her Earnings upon quitting the Prison, and allowing her to receive Visits from her Friends, to write to them, and to receive Letters from them, to confining her with

Lord Godolphin.

with the Prostitute from Cambridge, or with other Females charged with Felony?

Clearly so, and that we do; but it requires so much Room, and so much Deprivation of Air. She of course sees her Friends frequently.

There would be no Objection to their being allowed to walk round the Yard, if they were not allowed to speak?

No; or at separate Times.

Do you think it is possible to prevent Contamination, unless the Prisoners are kept separate or in silence?

I do not think it is possible.

Do you not think that Persons of good Character, and comparatively innocent, would consider it a Boon to be kept separate, instead of being placed in the Yard, or in a Cell with Persons of more depraved and abandoned Characters?

Many would, I have no Doubt.

If you took an Interest in a Prisoner, and you thought there might be a Chance of his reforming, would you not wish that he should be confined in a separate Cell, instead of being placed with others?

Certainly.

You would consider that it would be much better for him to be separate, to prevent his quitting the Prison more depraved than when committed?

I should say any thing was better, generally speaking, than their being all mixed together.

In the Case of the Woman committed for stealing an Egg, the Facts were so clear, that under the Law you did not think yourself justified with another Magistrate in admitting her to Bail?

No; she confessed the Offence.

Do you not think it very desirable that the Law should be so far changed as to enable Magistrates to take Bail for minor Offences?

I am certainly of that Opinion.

Probably this Woman, if convicted, will not be sentenced to more than One Day's Imprisonment for the Offence she has committed?

I think she has had greater Imprisonment than the Offence deserved, already.

That is a Case, probably, in which you would have thought it sufficient to take her own Recognizance to appear to answer the Charge?

I think we should.

Was she a Resident in the Neighbourhood?

Yes; the Daughter of a labouring Man. I think Classification by Character is a much better Plan than Classification by Crime.

How would you arrive at the Conclusion, if the Classification were by Character rather than by Crime?

By the general Knowledge of the Character of those who come into our Gaol; I know something of more than Half the People that come there, or am enabled to know it from the Gaoler or other Quarters.

Supposing a Tramp was committed, how would you know his Character?

I should assume it to be a bad Character if he was a Tramp, but I should judge according to the best of my fancied Knowledge of Human Nature what the Character of the Man was; but under the present Plan of Classification by Crime this very Girl would have been put with any abandoned Woman who had committed a Felony, as a Matter of course, unless the Visiting Magistrates directed otherwise.

Under the present Law that young Woman charged with stealing an Egg would be put into the same Ward or Class as a Woman who had murdered her Child or her Husband?

Yes. We have Persons occasionally in the Gaol who have been transported and come back again, and are committed for Misdemeanors. Nothing can be so inefficient as the present Classification under the Act of Parliament.

Your

565

Your Lordship is to be understood as entertaining the Opinion that it would be desirable, if possible, that the Debtors should be confined in separate Prisons from the Criminal Prisoners? *Lord Godolphin.*

Certainly.

And that the Sheriff should be responsible for them, as he is now?

It should be a separate Place altogether; it is quite impossible in our Gaol to keep anything like Discipline with the Debtors included.

In fact the Debtors Ward is generally a Place of Noise and Riot?

Yes; always changing, coming in, and going out, and visiting to any Extent; the only Thing that is stopped is Spirits, and to prevent that we are obliged to search many People, and some Persons who do not like to be searched. I would likewise mention, with respect to the Debtors, they very few of them attend the Chapel; we have no Power of compelling them; some say they are Dissenters; others will not go; so that the Gaoler is frequently obliged to absent himself from Chapel to watch the Debtors who do not attend Chapel.

A Regulation to lock up the Debtors during Divine Service, who did not attend the Chapel, would prevent that Inconvenience?

It is a delicate Subject to interfere with them in Religious Matters; the best Thing would be an entire Separation. There are Two Things I would wish to mention; one is, that the Convicts from Cambridge that came up the other Day, and who are some of the worst of that Population, slept at Newgate the Night in their Way through London. Even they expressed their Horror of the State of Newgate the Night they slept there to the Gaoler, and therefore I think it very objectionable that the Prisoners should sleep at Newgate in their Way through London, if they can avoid it. Those from the North, I understand, come up in the Vans all the Way without stopping at all. I have every Reason to suppose that our lowering the Diet has had a very great Effect in lessening the Number of Prisoners; we have Twenty less than we had this Time last Year. There is a general Disposition to dislike the Tread-mill very much; and the Prisoners, formerly, have appeared before me, and requested to be put on as a Favour, over and over again, in order to get the extra Allowance. There is not One Ounce of Meat or One Drop of Beer comes into the Gaol, with the Exception of that for the Debtors and sick.

Is there a Chaplain to the Cambridge County Gaol?

Yes.

Does he devote his whole Time to the Duties of the Prison, and does he hold any other Preferment?

He does the whole of the Duty, and scarcely ever fails; but he has a small Preferment in the Neighbourhood. He resides in Cambridge.

Do you think he devotes Three Hours a Day to the Prisoners on the Average?

I should say not.

What is the average Number of the Prisoners?

I should say between Sixty and Seventy.

Do you not think that the Chaplain ought to devote Four Hours a Day to the Duties of a Prison which contains as many as Sixty Prisoners on an Average?

I should think so, certainly.

What is his Salary?

£150 a Year, I believe.

Do you not think that for £150 a Year, taking into consideration the Remuneration which a great many Curates receive, you ought to be enabled to procure a Gentleman who would devote the whole of his Time to the Prison?

I should think so.

The Chaplain of a Prison is not called upon as the Clergyman of a Parish is, pecuniarily to assist his Parishioners when he sees them in great Distress?

No. One Thing should be considered, that he is bound to live within a certain Distance of the Prison, and Houses in Cambridge are expensive.

His Lordship withdraws.

Mr. G. Mackmurdo.

Mr. GILBERT MACKMURDO is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Surgeon of Newgate?
I am; and also Surgeon to the Giltspur Street Compter.

How long have you held that Office?
Five Years the Commencement of this Year.

What Salary do you receive?
£250 for myself; I am only the consulting Surgeon. I am allowed 100*l.* for defraying the Expenses I should be put to for Medicines and any Emergencies that may occur; that I pay to a Person appointed by myself from Time to Time.

Does he visit the Prison?
I visit the Prison daily; he visits it if an Accident should occur, living in the immediate Neighbourhood; he is an Apothecary.

Who appointed you?
The Court of Aldermen.

Does this Gentleman furnish Medicine for the Allowance you give him?
Yes.

Does he visit the Prison also?
He is not obliged to do that; if I am engaged in my Profession I write him a Letter, "Will you attend for me To-day;" and he attends to that Part of the Profession which I do not practise, Midwifery, for which the City allows a small Gratuity, with the Understanding that a Woman used to be employed, and allowed Half a Guinea for each Case, which used to be paid to a Midwife; at my Suggestion that is allowed to my Assistant, who practises Midwifery.

Have you not had a Case of Small Pox lately in Newgate?
The last Year we have had Three or Four Cases; not immediately following each other, but occurring, as they have done in London, at different Times, and not always traceable to any particular Infection.

Is the Infirmary of Newgate perfectly applicable for the Purposes of containing the Sick?
I think so.

Is a Prisoner attacked with the Small Pox placed in a separate Room?
Directly.

A separate Room in the Infirmary?
Yes.

There is a separate Infirmary for the Women?
Yes.

Is that equal to the other?
That is the smaller of the Two.

Do you think that Infirmary is ventilated sufficiently?
No.

Do you think the Infirmary for the Men is ventilated sufficiently?
Yes.

But not that for the Women?
No. I have stated several Times in my Report that I think that should be altered.

If a Woman is taken ill with the Small Pox, have you a Place where you can place her separately?
We have only Two small Rooms, which have been appropriated to my Use lately.

Are they fit for the Purpose?
I am accustomed to Hospitals, and we expect perhaps more ample Accommodation than we are likely to receive in Prisons.

Have

Have you ever been called upon to perform Operations in the Prison?
I have operated several Times; more frequently than I should have expected from chance Cases.

Have you a proper Place for those Operations?
Quite sufficiently so.

The Prisoners in Newgate are permitted, before and after Trial, to smoke, the Women as well as the Men, are they not?
I have used my own Authority to stop it occasionally; but I believe there is no general Rule forbidding it.

As a Medical Man, do you think it necessary that the Prisoners should smoke for the Benefit of their Health?
Certainly not; but Medical Men are placed in awkward Situations occasionally when giving Directions on such Subjects.

Have you ever recommended it to any of the Prisoners?
Yes, I have recommended a Patient to smoke on some few Occasions, and particularly when the Cholera was in the Prison. Some Medical Men had different Opinions upon the Subject, and as some Medical Men did allow it, I aw no Objection to it; I recommended it in One or Two Cases.

If you thought the Prison ought to be fumigated with Tobacco, you would not recommend it should be done by the Prisoners smoking, but by a fumigating Machine?
We are accustomed to follow a Practice which we consider more beneficial; an old Practice exists in the Prison which is more generally used, of using Tar Water, which has a very considerable Property of purifying; and the Practice I have lately introduced is Chloride of Lime and Chloride of Soda, which is very successful.

Do you conceive that if smoking were prohibited in Newgate the Health of the Prisoners confined there would suffer?
I should think not; I must say that now and then there are Cases of Asthma where it is found that individual Cases are relieved by smoking, and in individual Cases of chronic Complaints it appears to assuage their Sufferings, therefore in some point of view smoking, under Medical Advice, might be of Advantage.

The Question referred to general Cases, not taking away the Power from the Surgeon in individual Cases; but is it not your Opinion that smoking should be the Exception, and not the general Rule?
Certainly.

If nothing occurs in your general Practice to prevent it, what are your Hours for visiting Newgate?
In the Winter Six Months, between Twelve and One in the Day; in the Summer Six Months, before Ten o'Clock in the Morning; those are the Rules just established by the Court of Aldermen; my habit is to go there before Breakfast, being an early Man, and I return Home a little after Eight.

What Sort of daily general Inspection do you make of the Prisoners?
My first Duty on going in is to see any Prisoner who has been committed since my Visit of the Day before, for the express Purpose of ascertaining whether he has the Itch, which is a most infectious Complaint, or any Disease to complain of, or to present to my Notice, then, having seen the Men or the Women who may have come in; my Infirmary Man has been round that Morning and asked whether any one wished to see the Doctor, as they choose to call me.

Who is the Man called your Infirmary Man?
He has always been hitherto a Prisoner, kept back on good Behaviour, generally speaking; one who has been under my Observation a little Time previously, and who is himself locked in the Infirmary, but still goes round to all the Prisoners, and asks them whether they wish to see me on my Visit, and attend to my Instructions.

Mr. C. Mackmurdo.

Can you explain more in detail what is your usual daily Practice with respect to the Prisoners?

I go into each Infirmary and see all who are sick; there is a Wardsman for each Yard; he reports to me all who are sick; I have been there To-day about Noon, and on my going there I had to see One or Two Parties who were sick, particularly an Individual who is under Sentence of Execution, who complained of being exceedingly ill, but his Sufferings appeared to me to be the Result of extreme Anxiety of Mind.

Is it Part of your Duty to visit the Rooms in Newgate?

There is an Act of Parliament requiring the Surgeon to visit the whole of the Prison once a Week; I generally do it twice in the Week, taking it by Half; but every Week I see the whole, and very often more frequently.

In your Opinion is it consistent with the Health of the Prisoners that such a Number should sleep together as is the Case in Newgate?

They are too crowded, undoubtedly.

Do they not tear the Paper from the Windows that they may get more Air in the sleeping Rooms?

They say that they do it for that Purpose; I believe the Rooms are crowded; but we have such a Set of Individuals to deal with we are not always inclined to take their Depositions.

Are there some Men in Newgate who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity?

There are.

Do you think that it is conducive to the Restoration of those who are insane that they should be confined in Newgate?

I have stated in my Report Book, which is open to the Inspection of any Party, and sent up to the Court of Aldermen every Court, my decided Opinion that they should be removed, whether they were temporarily mad or likely to remain so. I think it extremely injurious they should be kept there.

Do you think there is any Chance of a Prisoner who is temporarily insane recovering in Newgate?

They are treated very kindly.

Is not there a great deal of Noise and Confusion?

We have one Part of Newgate set apart for those who appear to be more respectable, and generally speaking we have had One or Two of those Parties there; my Attention was closely drawn to the Matter of their being treated kindly. I have now in my Memory one Man whom I consider an Idiot; another who perhaps once in Twelve Months for a few Days is under such an Excitement that he would commit any desperate Act, who is sane the whole Remainder of the Year.

It would be better to remove him to a Lunatic Asylum?

He ought to be removed instantly; he was with me To-day complaining of others.

Is it not attended with Danger to the Lives of the other Prisoners?

Yes; he is under my Care now for having with a Knife threatened the Life of a Prisoner.

In Cases where you have put an insane Prisoner with some of the others, is it not a Matter of Annoyance to those with whom they are mixed?

In some Cases. There is a Woman who was lately acquitted on the Ground of Insanity for killing her Child; she is a harmless quiet Woman, and from the whole of her Deportment, and her previous History, and all I have observed, I gave my Evidence that I believed her to be insane; she was acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, I believe in a great measure in consequence of the Evidence I gave; she is not at all troublesome, but it is natural to expect it should be otherwise in most Cases.

Are there not some who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity without its being a well-founded Cause of Acquittal?

I believe there is one there who never was insane; I had a very protracted

Examination in his Case, and I still entertain the same Opinion. The Man who shot at the late Mr.———— ; an American. He has never betrayed since his Imprisonment the slightest Sign of Insanity. He is a violent and passionate Man. *Mr. G. Mackmurdo.*

Is it not Matter of Annoyance and of Injury to the other Prisoners, that a Man so circumstanced should be placed among them, when they must be persuaded that he was really a guilty Man, and that he has escaped Punishment by that Pretence.

There is a general Feeling of that Kind in the Prison.

The Prisoners in Newgate do not wear a Prison Dress?

No; not the Male Prisoners.

Do you think they are sufficiently clothed?

I think they are quite sufficiently clothed; on this Principle, that the Governor orders them Clothes the Moment we see any one deficiently clad; but they cut their Trowsers up to make Straps to protect their Legs from the Chains, or they dispose of them by means of their Friends out of the Prison.

Are they chained in Newgate?

No; but previous to their Transportation one tells another that they shall want Straps.

Do you not think it advisable that Persons coming in with filthy Clothes should have their Clothes taken away, and have a Prison Dress while within the Prison?

I suggested to the Governor lately that they should be treated as in other Prisons; that they should have their Clothes taken away.

When the Committee visited Newgate they saw a Man that had no Trowsers, but had the Rug used for sleeping tied round him with a String?

I know the Case alluded to; I represented that Case, and the Governor's Answer was, the Production of Two Pairs of Shoes, and the Production of some Trowsers which had been cut up; new Trowsers and new Shoes which had just been given to some other Prisoner, and they had been cut up most shamefully. I said, "You cannot leave this Prisoner in such a State." He said, "The City say they will not clothe the County Prisoners in this Manner, for that the Moment they give them new Clothes they cut them up in this Way, and that they cannot afford it; they come here only for Trial, and they will be here a very short Time."

Do not you think if there was some Discipline in the Prison, and a Prisoner was well aware that if he destroyed his Clothes the Governor would use the Power given him by the Gaol Act, and put him into a solitary Cell for Three Days, that he would be a little more cautious about cutting up his Clothes?

I am quite sure that if the Discipline were exercised in that Way it would have a great Effect.

Does not it appear to you advisable that their Clothes should be washed, baked, and purified, and that they should have in Newgate, as they have in the other Prisons in England, a Prison Dress, if they chose to wear it?

I should recommend it decidedly; not for every Individual; we have many brought there as well clothed in their Appearance as many out of Prison; it would be a hard Discipline on many of them if afterwards proved to be innocent.

Would it not be a safe Regulation to say that if they were very dirty their Clothes should be taken from them, but that if they were not they should have the Option of having the Prison Dress?

I think so; I asked for that Power myself. I must touch every Prisoner who comes in. I represented the Case to some of the Aldermen, suggesting they might give me an Authority to have their Clothes taken away, and to have them clad in the Prison Dress.

Would it not be a Boon to the Prisoners, thus to enable them to appear at their Trial in their own Dress, in much better Condition than they otherwise would?

They mostly come in very badly dressed; and have Clothes sent them for the Purpose of the Trial, by their Friends.

Mr. G. Mackmurdo.

Do you not think it very desirable for the Health of the Prisoners that they should be kept clean?

Yes; for the Health of all Parties. I am continually meeting with unpleasant Remarks from the Prison Ships, that the Surgeon does not attend to his Duty. I have been in Correspondence with Mr. Capper, and I wrote a Letter to him lately, in which I stated that it was utterly impossible for me to do more than I am now attempting to do; that I do not send away any Prisoners who have any Appearance of the Itch or of Fever; but that they should have the Infection from the promiscuous Intercourse which occurs there is that which cannot be helped.

You have many Cases of Itch there, probably?

Yes; I sent Two into the Infirmary this Morning, and One Yesterday. I got a Ward set apart for them since I have been in the Office.

What is the Average of the Number of such Cases you have in the Course of a Twelvementh?

It is just a Twelvemonth since I commenced entering the Name of every Individual I have to treat for Itch in the Prison; I think that there were about 110 Cases within the last Twelvemonth.

The whole Number of Prisoners being about how many?

If I take the Average for Six Years, it has been somewhat above Three thousand, but they have been less lately.

Your Opinion is quite decided, that Newgate contains more Prisoners than it ought to do?

Decidedly.

Even putting out of consideration any thing but the Health of the Prisoners?

It is too small for its present Purpose.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Mr. H. Wakefield.

Mr. HENRY WAKEFIELD is called in, and examined as follows:

You are the Surgeon of Coldbath Fields Prison?

I am.

How long have you been in that Office?

I have discharged the Duties between Seven and Eight Years.

What is the Salary you receive?

I receive £400 a Year. I am likewise Surgeon to the New Prison, Clerkenwell; I have Charge of both of them.

The 400*l.* a Year covers the Two?

It does.

Have you a Deputy?

No; One Turnkey is attached to the Department in the Interior of the Prison.

Do you furnish Medicines for that Sum?

I do.

And perform Operations?

In extreme Cases I generally require the Assistance of an Hospital Surgeon. There have been One or Two Instances of Danger in which I have required that.

Just as you would in private Practice?

Precisely so.

Do you know the Average Number of Prisoners in the Two Prisons?

The Number of Commitments in the House of Correction in 1834 was 10,596; in the Two Prisons they were upwards of Eighteen thousand.

57

Mr. H. Wakefield.

The Prisons take up a great deal of your Time?
I am expected to be there twice a Day, and as often as my Services may be required?

Do you inspect the Prisoners twice a Week?
Twice a Week I inspect the whole of the Prisoners in the House of Correction.

Do you know the average Number of sick in the Two Prisons?
The Number of sick admitted into the Infirmaries of the House of Correction last Year was 713.

How many in Clerkenwell?
One hundred and fifty.

Had you any Cases of Small Pox in the House of Correction last Year?
There have been, I think, Three.

Do you conceive the Infirmaries in Coldbath Fields sufficient?
The Female Infirmary was built at my Suggestion; they had built some Rooms not at all calculated for the sick; I recommended to the County to build this new Infirmary, which is admirably adapted.

Is the other as good?
Not quite so good, but they are very airy Rooms, and on the Top of the Prison on a very good Elevation, and exceedingly well calculated, considering all Things; I do not know that they could be much improved in the present State of the Building.

Do you find the Diet at Coldbath Fields sufficient to secure the Health of the Prisoners?
It is, for a certain Period; the Diet has been altered within the last Eighteen Months, at my Suggestion. There was no Variation between those who were there of full Age, and those who were sentenced for shorter Periods; it has been altered considerably since that Time as to the Boys and Girls.

Have you got the Statement?
I have.

The same is delivered in, and read, and is as follows:

DIET of PRISONERS in the House of Correction, COLDBATH FIELDS.

That all Prisoners in the House of Correction above Sixteen Years of Age whose Period of Imprisonment exceeds Three Months, be dieted as follows; viz.

20 Ounces of Bread daily.
6 Ounces of Meat Three Times a Week - }
1 Pint of Gruel on Saturday - - } for Dinner.
1 Pint of Soup Three Times a Week - - }
1 Pint of Gruel daily for Breakfast.

That all Prisoners in the House of Correction above Sixteen Years of Age, whose Period of Imprisonment does not exceed Three Months, be dieted as follows; viz.

20 Ounces of Bread daily.
6 Ounces of Meat twice a Week - - }
1 Pint of Gruel Three Times a Week - - } for Dinner.
1 Pint of Soup twice a Week - - - }
1 Pint of Gruel daily for Breakfast.

And that all Prisoners in the House of Correction under Sixteen Years of Age be dieted as follows; viz.

6 Ounces of Bread daily.
6 Ounces of Meat on Sunday - - - }
1 Pint of Gruel Five Times a Week - - } for Dinner.
1 Pint of Soup on Wednesday - - - }
1 Pint of Gruel daily for Breakfast.

Do you consider this Dietary adequate?
It has been the Diet for the Period I state; they have found no ill Effects from its Use.

Mr. H. Wakefield.

Are you of opinion that a Man who is confined for above Three Months requires more Nourishment than one who is confined for a shorter Period?

I do not think he does, for Three Months; the Time I am generally obliged to interfere in regard to their Diet is when they have been there from Seven to Eight Months; but that varies according to the Constitution of the Parties; some come in in a good State of Health; others, who have been reduced from Dissipation and other Causes, cannot go through the Labour of the Prison without an increased Diet.

You in those Cases order an Increase of Diet?

Yes; I have full Power to do so.

Do you prefer increasing the Diet, or lessening the Quantity of Labour?

I do both; I cannot do without both; if they go to the Tread-mill there are rarely Instances where they can continue it above Eight Months.

Women are placed on the Tread-mill in Coldbath Fields?

They are.

Are you of opinion that that Description of Labour is prejudicial to their Health?

That depends upon the Time they are there; not for a short Period, certainly.

Would you prefer Crank-wheel Labour for Females?

I have had no Experience of that; I believe it is very violent for the Time when they use it; but I cannot speak to that, not having had any Experience.

Are there any Persons confined at present in Coldbath Fields who have been acquitted on the Ground of Insanity, or who are insane?

There is one Individual who was sentenced there.

Is he insane?

He is imbecile; he is not a dangerous Man, but a Man of weak Intellects.

Is there not at present some Difficulty if a Prisoner becomes insane during his Confinement as to the Course the Governor ought to pursue at the Expiration of his Confinement?

Yes, there is; the Prisoners never have been allowed to be discharged in such a State; the only Course to be pursued is to remove them to a Lunatic Asylum, my own Signature and that of another Medical Man being all which is required in order to effect that.

Smoking is not permitted in the Coldbath Fields Prison?

No.

Do you think that smoking is necessary in a Prison?

I should say not; when I first was called upon to discharge the Duties of this Prison during the Illness of the late Surgeon, smoking was allowed there, but it was afterwards entirely stopped, and I have seen no ill Effects; and in the Commitments of last Year, which were 10,596, the Deaths were only Eighteen.

You have a great many Persons committed whose Healths have been much impaired by Gin and Dissipation?

Yes, certainly.

How long were you Assistant to the Prison before you were appointed to the Office you now hold?

I was not Assistant; it was only during the Illness of the former Surgeon I officiated; that was about Twelve Years ago.

Is smoking permitted in Clerkenwell New Prison?

It is.

You do not think it necessary for the Health of the Prisoners?

No; it is most scrupulously prevented in the House of Correction; there is not a Chance of their being able to chew Tobacco or smoke.

You consider that Regulation a good one?

Certainly.

It does not interfere with the Health of the Prisoners?
Certainly not.

Is it the Practice of Coldbath Fields to take their Clothes from the Prisoners on Admittance, and to give them the Prison Dress?
Yes.

Is that the Practice at Clerkenwell?
No; only those sent on summary Convictions; some, I think, from the Excise, and in default of Bail for lengthened Periods; those are dressed in the Prison Uniform.

Are they washed on Admission into both Prisons?
Into both.

Do you not think that necessary for the Health of the Prisoners?
Quite essential; that was one of the first Regulations I insisted on.

If the Governor of Clerkenwell Prison was to find a Man who came in extremely dirty, with very filthy Clothes, for the Safety of the other Prisoners he would take them away and have them washed, and give the Prisoner a Prison Dress?
I do not know whether he has the Authority.

Ought he not to have the Authority, in your Opinion?
Certainly.

To prevent Infection?
Yes; to prevent Infection and eruptive Diseases, which are very common among the lower Classes.

The Infirmary in the House of Correction in Coldbath Fields is a good one, is it not?
Yes; it is not so airy as one we had on the other Side, where the Men now work, which was more airy; and during the Time of the Cholera, Two or Three Years ago, we had occasion to put every Room in requisition.

What is the latest Instance of Cholera you have had in Coldbath Fields?
The Year before last.

Will you state your Opinion with regard to solitary Confinement?
The only Class of Prisoners I have had an Opportunity of judging upon is the Class of Prisoners sent for unnatural Offences for Periods of One or Two Years; those Men I think do not suffer in their Minds so much as they do from Corporeal Disease; they are very subject to Scurvy; it is called Sea Scurvy; they are obliged to have some Indulgences, and the Length of Imprisonment is too long; they cannot bear it; and the Moment those Indulgences are given it removes in my Opinion a great deal of the Punishment of Imprisonment; they are many of them Men whose Minds are very much deteriorated by the Associations they have had; I think the greatest Punishment the Prisoners have in the House of Correction is the limited Scale of Diet; they feel that more than a lengthened Imprisonment.

You are obliged to give them Indulgences for the Purpose of keeping them in Health?
Yes.

Do you not think it would be desirable to make Imprisonment as short as possible, but severe?
Yes; I have mentioned that repeatedly to the Magistrates; I am obliged to give them all Kinds of Indulgences, Vegetables, Beer and Wine, and to relieve them from Labour; the Moment they go into the Hospital they meet with so much Attention there that all the Hardship of Imprisonment is removed.

Do you think they sham sick in any Instances?
Repeatedly; I have sometimes Thirty or Forty come up in a Morning during the hot Weather; they do not care for the Punishment of being locked up on Bread and Water for Three Days at this Time of the Year.

They wish to get to the Infirmary, where they live better?
Yes; it requires a great deal of watching and a great deal of Experience

Mr. H. Wakefield.

to be alive to the Pretences they practise; Men will wound themselves so as to incapacitate themselves for the Wheel; but there is such a System of Vigilance there it is almost impossible for them to escape Detection.

Do you attend the Coroners Inquests on Persons who die in the Prison?
Yes; on every Person.

You have never known an Instance where a Turnkey or other Officer of the Prison has been on the Jury?
No, certainly not; it formerly was the Case when I first attended the Prison, to summon Half Prisoners and Half Persons in the Neighbourhood; but that has been done away with for some Years.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Monday next, Two o'Clock.

575

Die Jovis, 25° Junii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Evidence on Goals.

THE Lord in the Chair delivers in the Answers to Queries received from Lord Eastnor relating to the Gaols for the County of Surrey, and also Extracts relative to Gaols from the Third and Fourth Appendix to the Report on Municipal Corporations.

The same are inspected.

Mr. GILBERT MACKMURDO is called in, and further examined as follows:

Mr. G. Mackmurdo.

Are the Prisoners, when admitted to Newgate, washed and cleaned before they are placed with other Prisoners?
No, except in any very extreme Cases where Vermin and Dirt are excessive.

Do you not think it most desirable for their own Healths, and for that of the other Prisoners, that this Course should always be adopted?
I think it desirable that this should be done in every Case that may appear to require it.

Are the Prisoners, when admitted to Giltspur Street, washed and cleaned before they are placed with other Prisoners?
No, except in any very extreme Cases where Vermin and Dirt are excessive.

Do you not think it most desirable for their own Healths, and for that of the other Prisoners, that this Course should always be adopted?
I think it desirable that this should be done in every Case that may appear to require it.

Do you think that it is possible to adopt the same Dietary for every Prison, as the Situation of some is much more healthy than that of others?
It is not desirable.

Do you think that Giltspur Street Compter contains adequate Accommodation for the Number of Prisoners who are confined there?
No.

Is it at present practicable to keep Newgate and Giltspur Street Compter as clean as they ought to be?
Considering the present Number of their Inmates, it is not.

Have the Females in Giltspur Street Compter the Option of having a Prison Dress if they wish it?
They have them, if considered necessary by the Governor.

Have the Females in Newgate the Option of having a Prison Dress if they wish it?
The Females who have been tried wear a Prison Dress; if any others require Clothing they are supplied at once.

Have the Males in Giltspur Street the Option of having a Prison Dress if they wish it?
They have them, if considered necessary by the Governor.

Is not the Construction of Giltspur Street Compter very defective with regard to Ventilation?
Yes.

Are not the Prisoners too much crowded in Giltspur Street Compter?
Yes.

Mr. G. Macmurdo.

Is not the Practice of making Giltspur Street Compter a Watch-house very inconvenient?
Extremely so.

Have you known any Instances of Persons being sent to Giltspur Street Compter because they had a Disease which prevented their being received at the Time in the Hospitals?
Frequently.

In your Opinion is this right, with reference to the Healths of the Prisoners confined there?
No.

Have all the Male Prisoners in Giltspur Street Compter Bedsteads?
Yes.

Do you not think that Prisoners should have Bedsteads, Cots, or Hammocks?
I do not think it necessary for their Healths.

How often are new Rugs furnished to the Prisoners?
As often as necessary.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Colonel Graydon.

Colonel GRAYDON is called in, and examined as follows:

You are an Officer of the Royal Engineers?
Yes, a Lieutenant Colonel.

Are you acquainted with the Works under charge of the Ordnance, in the Neighbourhood of Chatham?
I am.

Is this, before the Committee, a Plan of the opposite Side of the River to Chatham?
It is.

Can you point out where the Euryalus Hulk for Boys lies?
Off the Dock-yard. (*The Witness points out the Position.*)

Have you got a Plan of Upnor Castle?
I have not.

Are you acquainted with Upnor Castle?
I am; it is a new Castle; it is not Bomb-proof; it is not arched; it was appropriated as a Powder Magazine, but in consequence of its not being arched, there were new Magazines made in another Spot.

Is it made use of by the Ordnance Department at the present Time?
Yes, it is as a Laboratory; they always land their Powder there, and small Quantities are deposited in the Castle, and a larger Quantity is in a regular Powder Magazine.

Is there any Casement Bomb-proof along on the same Side?
No.

Do you conceive Upnor Castle is absolutely necessary to be retained for the Purposes of the Ordnance?
Yes, I do, for it is the only Place for landing Powder; they always come and land their Stores and Powder there.

Could they not land it below as well?
There is no Place to land; it is the only Place we have to land Powder; the large Powder Magazines are on the Dock-yard Side.

Are you acquainted with the different Magazines or Works of this Description on each Bank of the River?
Yes; I am.

Are there any that are not absolutely necessary for the Purpose of the

Ordnance at the present Moment, which could be converted into a Place to confine the Boys now sent on board the Euryalus? *Colonel Graydon.*

I do not know of any.

Upnor Castle would have done if you had not required it?

Yes; but then it is the only Place to land the Powder and Stores.

They are not kept in Upnor Castle for any Time, are they?

Small Quantities of Powder are, and when it amounts to 1,000 Pounds it is generally put into a large Casement Barrack, but which is now converted to a Powder Magazine.

Where is the Magazine in which is deposited that Powder?

[The Witness points out the Spot.]

Would it not be possible to provide another Place for landing the Powder, instead of Upnor Castle?

Yes; it would take some Expense to make it Bomb-proof.

Upnor Castle is not Bomb-proof?

No; but the New Magazine near it is Bomb-proof.

Would not it have been desirable to have landed it on the Dock Yard Side, so as not to have occasion to put it again into Boats?

I do not think large Vessels could come up; this is all deep Water, and any sized Vessel may land there.

Upnor Castle you do not consider necessary for the Defences of the River?

Not at all.

Do you not think that if the Castle itself was fitted up for a Prison there would still be no Objection to landing the Powder and Stores there, and another of the Magazines built there would be better than keeping it in small Quantities in the Castle of Upnor, which is not Bomb-proof?

It would be very objectionable to have a Prison near the Powder Magazines; it is within about 100 Yards.

You would think it dangerous to have a Prison so near?

Yes; we have a Detachment of Troops to guard the Place all round.

You are not aware of any other Place of that Description, not absolutely necessary for the Ordnance, which might be given over to confine those Boys?

No; there is a Casement Barrack on the other Side, not fit for a Powder Magazine, but we have converted it; there are 2,000 Barrels of Gunpowder in the Centre, and it is very dry; a very habitable Place.

Is it surrounded by a Wall?

It is surrounded by the Chatham Lines, but we should not know where to put the Powder.

Building a Magazine to contain the Quantity of Powder that would contain, would cost a great deal of Money?

It would.

Can you say what a Magazine, to hold 2,000 Barrels of Powder, would cost?

I should think Twelve or Fifteen hundred Pounds.

Not more than that?

That depends upon the Situation.

How near would you think it safe to build a Place to contain the Powder; how near that Barrack, if that Barrack was converted into a Prison for Boys?

This Powder Magazine (*pointing at it*) might be enlarged for the Purpose; this contains 300 Barrels of Gunpowder; it is outside the Works.

You would see no Military Objection to that being converted into a Prison for Boys?

The only Objection is, that the Powder Magazine is so close to it; I do not suppose it would be an Objection, for it is surrounded by a Ditch.

Might it not be wanted for a Barrack?

In Time of War it certainly would be; it is not used for a Barrack now, but for a Powder Magazine.

Colonel Graydon.

Powder Magazines but very seldom blow up, unless Shells are thrown into them?

Very seldom, and even then they are secured, for the Arch is sufficiently thick to prevent Mischief; but the Inhabitants of Brompton are very tenacious of so much Powder being deposited in this Casement Barrack; there are 2,000 Barrels there, and 300 in the other Deposit. There is a Fort called Clarence Fort, which would be very fit for the Purpose, only that it is already appropriated as a Lunatic Asylum for the Army; there are 100 Patients; that is the best adapted.

Are they Men or Officers?
Some Men and some Officers.

Do you know how many it is capable of containing?
I believe that is the full Number it would contain.

You do not know any other that would be suitable?
No; Fort Pitt is given up to the Medical Department for the Troops arriving from Foreign Service, and it is fully occupied.

Could not the Men be removed from the Clarence Tower to the Casement within the Lines?
It could not be fitted up in the same Manner; that is, there are underground Communications which are very convenient.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Monday next, Eleven o'Clock.

Die Lunæ, 29° Junii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Evidence on Gaols.

John Pike.

JOHN PIKE is brought up in the Custody of the Governor of Newgate, and examined as follows:

How old are you?
Thirty-five next August.

Could you read and write when first committed to Prison?
Yes.

What was your Trade?
Journeyman Painting-brush Maker.

Where did you live?
In London.

How often have you been convicted?
Three Times.

When were you first convicted?
Somewhere about Eight Years since.

Of what Offence?
Being in Company with Housebreakers, who had Housebreaking Implements in their Possession.

What was your Sentence?
Twelve Months in Coldbath Fields.

Was Silence enforced at that Time?
No.

When in that Prison at that Period did you form any Acquaintance with bad Characters which afterwards proved detrimental to you?
I did; they instructed me how to follow the Career of Crime with more Success, and advised me how to escape Detection.

What did you do when discharged from Prison?
A Fortnight after I got Employment in my Trade, but was soon forced to leave because my Fellow Workmen had found out that I had been in Prison, and they made so much Observation that I could not stay.

Were you charged with any Offence by your Master?
No, I did not draw all the Money he owed me; I paid him for certain Instruments I received, and for the Work I had done; for neither of which I received the Money.

What did you then do?
I tried to enlist in the East India Company's Service, but they would not take me as my Instep had been injured.

What Course did you then follow?
I went then to the Flash Houses, where I met some of those Men with whom I had been acquainted in Coldbath Fields; with them I lived for Two Years, principally by thieving.

You were then taken up?
Yes.

And convicted of what?
An Attempt to commit a Burglary.

John Pike.

Where were you sent to?
To Giltspur Street Compter. I was convicted on the Evidence of the Man who proposed the Robbery. He had been twice before sentenced to Transportation, and had served his Time; I am certain he had been Twice in the Penitentiary.

What Year was this?
1830.

Were you a Wardsman in the Compter?
Yes.

Did the Thieves there instruct one another?
Yes.

Can you state an Instance?
Yes. In Coldbath Fields, a Footman was in for passing bad Money, and he associated with a Housebreaker; the Housebreaker left the Prison before the Footman, and carried into execution the Robbery they had arranged in the Prison, and the Footman was angry that it was done before he got out, as he had no Share in the Plunder. The Robbery was in the Footman's Master's House; it was at a Chemist and Druggist's. And when I was in the Compter I knew a Case in which it was arranged in that Prison, by a Person who had been in the Employ of a Gentleman and was there for an Assault, that a Robbery should be committed, which was committed before the Person who had been in his Employ got out of Prison.

For what are you now here?
For Burglary.

What was your Sentence?
One Year's Imprisonment in the House of Correction, Coldbath Fields, and then to be transported for Life.

That was Two Years since?
Yes; April Two Years. I was confined a Year in Coldbath Fields, and then removed to Newgate.

Were you kept back from Transportation to be a Wardsman in Newgate?
I do not know; I was ill; I am a Wardsman there to the condemned Cells.

Which do you think best for a Prisoner, the Discipline when you first went to Cold Bath Fields, or when you were there last?
When I was there last.

Do the Prisoners dislike the silent System?
Yes.

Do they ever communicate in Coldbath Fields?
But very seldom, and very little indeed.

Is there a Chance of a Man being made better in Prison?
No Chance at all.

Is there a Chance of a Prisoner not coming out worse?
There is a better Chance of not coming out worse from Coldbath Fields than anywhere else.

Do you think that any Classification can prevent Contamination, if the Men are kept together?
Certainly not; nothing but being kept apart; for I have known many who have been in for the most trifling Offences, who have been Men of the most vicious Character.

What Punishment do the Prisoners most dislike?
Solitary Confinement.

What is the best Punishment for young Thieves?
Short Terms of solitary Confinement; but they should not be kept too long, 'till they get used to it; they should not be kept 'till the Dread of the Punishment has worn off.

Would

John Pike.

Would it have been better for you if the Discipline in Coldbath Fields had been Eight Years since what it is now?
Yes. It would have been better for me if I had then been sent out of the Country,—transported.

What do you ascribe the Ruin of many of the Youths to?
To the Flash Houses, to the low Houses, to the free Concerts, and Penny Rooms.

Do Males and Females congregate together in those Places?
Not at the first,—Flash Houses, but they do at the free Concerts and Penny Rooms.

Do the young Thieves keep Women?
Yes; there are many more Prostitutes of Thirteen, Fourteen, and Fifteen now than there used to be.

What do they do at the Flash Houses?
Drink and gamble,—they are very fond of gambling; and they plan Robberies there.

From the Opportunities you have of ascertaining the Feelings of the Prisoners in Newgate, do you think they dread Transportation?
They dread it, and much more now than formerly.

Have they heard of the increased Severity?
Yes, from returned Transports.

Do they believe more what they hear from them than what is stated in the public Prints?
Yes.

Do the Prisoners in your Ward when capitally convicted believe that they will be executed?
Nineteen out of Twenty do not.

You have a Man there now who was convicted of a Rape on a Child of between Nine and Ten Years of Age?
Yes.

Was he aware of the Enormity of his Offence; and did he believe he would be executed?
Yes; for Three or Four Days he thought he should be executed, and he then bitterly bewailed the Course he had pursued.

What was he?
An Ostler to a Stage Coach Master.

What Effect had the first Reprieve on him?
He received it with Apathy; he is a Man of very strong Nerve, not easily agitated.

Did he receive his final Reprieve in the same Manner?
Yes.

Was he attended by Mr. Cotton?
Yes; and by another Gentleman whom he wished to see.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

W. A. Miles, Esq.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS MILES Esquire is called in, and examined as follows:

Have you turned your Attention very much to Prison Discipline?
I have.

Have you put upon Paper the Result of your Observations?
I have.

W. A. Miles, Esq.

Will you have the goodness to deliver in the same?

[The Witness delivers in the same, with Two Models of Walls, which are cheaper than those usually built, and which prevent Sound, the same being referred to in the Observations delivered in by him.]

The said Paper is read, and is as follows:

In pursuing my Inquiries concerning Prison Discipline, and the Effect it produces, my Attention has been directed

1st. To the Source of Crime.

2nd. To the Effect of Punishment.

3rd. To the Habits and Manners of Thieves, in order to ascertain, if possible, the Discipline most likely to render a Gaol extremely irksome without having recourse to extreme Severity or Torture.

And my Conclusions are; first, That the Source of Crime is early Contamination and vicious Education from Parents; secondly, That Labour and safe Custody will not deter or reform Offenders; thirdly, That the Discipline should be rendered so irksome that the Self-convenience and Interest of an idle Man or a Thief would make him prefer a Workhouse to a Gaol; to effect which I should suggest, that no Prison Dietary should exceed those of Workhouses; that the Periods of Sleep should not exceed Four Hours; and as Mental Idleness is a greater Punishment than Physical Labour I should recommend that Prisoners should be placed on Forms and inspected daily by Policemen.

In order to obtain the fullest Information on the Subject, I have not only carefully read the Reports before the Select Committees of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, but I have also visited the London Gaols, the Police Offices, and have also held personal Communication with Thieves, in order to ascertain from them their Feelings with regard to Prison Discipline, as well as their Habits in Life; but they are a Race so artful, and habitually inclined to Deception, that I place but little Credence in their Statements, unless confirmed by other Information.

With regard to Punishment, I think that Severity of corporal Punishment generally hardens the Feelings, destroys what may remain of Good in the Disposition of a Man, and produces Mental Degradation. To overcome, or rather to counteract, the Evil of vicious Education is an End which I do not think attainable by Violence or Force.

The following Table of Re-commitments from Michaelmas 1833 to Michaelmas 1834 shows that Labour Punishments do not deter from Crime:

Names of Prisons.	Total Number committed.	Number of Prisoners who had been previously committed.				Total Number re-committed.
		Once.	Twice.	Three Times.	Four Times and oftener.	
Cold Bath Fields - - -	10,596	2,149	758	370	740	4,017
Westminster Bridewell - -	2,912	413	127	45	340	925
Brixton House of Correction - -	2,402	123	55	52	137	367
Giltspur Street Compter - -	5,706	241	154	102	37	534
Borough Compter - - -	1,844	103	41	23	72	239
Surrey County Gaol - - -	2,096	121	36	23	16	196
Total - -	25,556			Total re-committed		6,278

The Total of Re-commitments, namely, 6,278, is a Proof of the very large Number of Offenders whom Prisons have not deterred; Criminals who, having become hardened, know what they will have to undergo in case of Conviction, and who may be looked upon as the Gangrene of Society, the Prison Population of the Metropolis. But in order to frustrate the Calculations and Anticipations of Thieves upon the Subject of Punishment, I should suggest that the Discipline towards re-committed Offenders should be increased in

W. A. Miles, Esq.

Severity, and that after a Man may have been re-committed a stated Number of Times he should be inevitably transported as a vicious and incorrigible Man.

London Thieves have no Sense of Moral Degradation; they are corrupt to the Core; they are Strangers to Virtue and Character, even by Name, for many of them are the Children of Thieves or of exceedingly dissolute People, consequently they can have no Contrition; they are in a State of predatory Existence, without any Knowledge of social Duty; they may lament Detection, because it is an Inconvenience, but they will not repent their Crime; in Gaol they will ponder on the past, curse their "Evil Star," and look forward with Anxiety to the Moment of Release, but their Minds and Habits are not constituted for Repentance. Mr. Chesterton, of the House of Correction, informed me, that he considers Reformation among juvenile Offenders to be utterly hopeless; he observed, that "Boys brought up in low Neighbourhoods have 'no Chance' of being honest, because on leaving a Gaol they return to their old Haunts, and follow the Example of their Parents or Associates." Lieutenant Tracey, of the Westminster Bridewell, has pointed out to me Lads who live constantly in Gaols. Captain Kincaid, of the City Bridewell, informed me that One Half of the Number under his Lock on the Day that I inspected the Prison (June 9th) had been more than once committed, many of them several Times, especially the Boys. Mr. Teague, of the Giltspur Street Compter, is of opinion that young Thieves are mostly incorrigible, that nothing will reform them; an Opinion which, he says, he has formed from the Experience of many Years. Mr. Capper, of the Home Office, stated in his Evidence that out of 300 juvenile Convicts on board the Hulk Euryalus, the eldest of whom was not Seventeen, 133 had been committed more than once; and an experienced Burglar told me that young Thieves cannot and will not reform; "the only Thing, Sir," he remarked, "that may save them is Transportation, as it removes them from evil Companions."

The young Thief is a Nucleus of Mischief. A young Pickpocket named Stuart, aged Thirteen, informed me that his Parents daily sent him into the Streets to "look about," that is, to plunder whatever he could lay his Hands upon; that his principal Associates were Three young Thieves, with whom he "worked," or robbed; that when he was Ten Years old he stood at a Horse's Head while his Companion stole a Great Coat from the Gig; that he got 6*d.* for his Share of the Plunder; that he had committed many Robberies because he was made to do it; and that he lived entirely by Plunder.

Mr. Chesterton states in his Evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, 1831, in answer to Query 474, "Some of the Parents lead their Children into evil Courses. It is no uncommon Thing when we are listening to the Conversation between the Prisoners and their Parents, to hear a Conversation that shows at once the Boy's Situation; but the old Thieves are in the habit of bringing in with them young inexperienced Lads. Whenever the elder Thieves are re-committed, they are frequently re-committed with another." He also observes (522) that "the elder Thieves are continually corrupting young Lads, and bringing them into Prison."

I am informed that Captain Brenton considers the total Number of juvenile Offenders within the Bills of Mortality to be 12,000; Dr. Lushington, I believe, computes the Number still higher; and from the Evidence above quoted it is evident that each elder Offender is daily spreading the Mischief far and wide.

There is a youthful Population in the Metropolis devoted to Crime, trained to it from Infancy, adhering to it from Education and Circumstances, whose Connexions prevent the Possibility of Reformation, and whom no Punishment can deter; a Race "sui generis," different from the rest of Society, not only in Thoughts, Habits, and Manners, but even in Appearance; possessing, moreover, a Language exclusively their own.

There are Lodging Houses kept by old Thieves, where juvenile Offenders herd together, and their constant Intercourse tends to complete Corruption. It is in these Hot-beds of Vice that they revel in the Fruits of their Plunder; and, though extremely young, they live with Girls, indulging in every Kind of Debauchery.

W. A. Miles, Esq.

There are Eleven Girls now in the Westminster Bridewell, the eldest is not Seventeen, who were taken in a Thieves Nest, in Union Court Westminster. One of the Girls I questioned in the Presence of Lieutenant Tracey, who also examined her: she said that the whole Court is composed of Lodging Houses similar to the one where she had lived; that Seventeen or Twenty young Girls lived in the same House; that they paid 7*d.* a Night for a front Room and 6*d.* for a back Room, in which were Three or Four Girls; that young Thieves, —Boys who lived entirely by Plunder,— lived, slept with, and kept them; that the Police would not allow a Bundle to be carried into or out of the Court without searching it, and that all stolen Goods were consequently "fenced," or disposed of before the Boys came Home. The latter Part of this Statement has been confirmed to me by Policemen, who also informed me that the Girls frequently maintained the Boys by the Wages of their Prostitution.

I have also seen several Newgate Tokens; they are circular thin Pieces of Metal of various Sizes. The Initials or Names of a loving Pair are punched upon them, together with a Heart or some Symbol of Affection; sometimes with a Motto, as "True for ever," "Love for Life," &c. &c. &c. These Tokens are manufactured in Newgate, and I am informed that the Parties attach the greatest Value to them, wearing them constantly about their Persons, attaching to them in many Cases a superstitious Value, and deeming them as Amulets to preserve them from Danger and Detection. Mr. Chesterton remarks, in his Evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons (522), "If you go into the History of the Thieves out of Doors it is very lamentable; they frequent the worst of Public Houses; they all of them keep their Women, and even the young Boys keep Girls; it is a System of Profligacy from Beginning to End." Mr. Plank, the chief Officer at Marlborough Street, informed me, that each young Prostitute in the Streets has generally a young Thief very near her in order to facilitate her Escape, or to hand over any Property she might abstract from any Person's Pocket.

The Flash Houses are the Resorts of the elder Thieves; here they assemble, concoct their Schemes, share Booty, and indulge in drinking*, as well as constant gambling. All Thieves delight in gambling, and one of their chief Inducements to thieve is in order to have the Means to enjoy and indulge in their greatest Passion.

It is in these Lodging Houses, Flash Houses, and low Receptacles for gambling that Society receives the greatest Injury; it is in these Sinks of Iniquity, so common in every Part of Town, and so notorious that every Policeman knows them, that Contamination takes place to such a Degree that it rots to the Heart those whom it has once infected.†

Upon these Grounds I venture to conclude that the most essential Service to the Community would be to put these Houses under immediate "Surveillance." Mr. Plank suggested that the most effectual Mode of stopping the Trade of Gambling Houses would be to station Two Policemen at their respective Doors to watch narrowly the Ingress and Egress of the Visitors, by which Means young Shop-boys or Thieves would be deterred from entering for Fear of subsequent Recognition.

With respect to Gaols, I am led to consider that the Plan of attempting to render them Schools of Virtue, however humanely or ingeniously it may be devised, is too Utopian for successful Practice.

Mr. Chesterton thinks that nothing in the Shape of Punishment will deter Thieves; that solitary Confinement, with as low a Diet as is consistent with Health, and no more Labour than is necessary for Exercise, would be considered a much severer Punishment than any they now suffer; that he considers, moreover, the Character of those People to be so dreadfully abandoned that he thinks very little short of a Miracle can work Reformation in most of them,—referring to those who embrace Crime as a Profession, and they are very numerous.

Prisons where Offenders converse together as they are permitted to do in Newgate and the Compter are decidedly mischievous to the Men and to the

* On referring to the Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the Prison Discipline Society, Boston, I find that the Connexion between Intemperance and Crime is about 64½ per Cent.

† The Burglar whom I have before quoted, in reply to a Question, "Do you think these Flash Houses to be injurious?" answered, "*They are the* Root *of all Evil.*"

Community

Community. In Newgate the Prisoners herd together like Dogs in a Kennel, basking in the Sun or prowling round and round the Yard, as I saw them; they appeared to be reduced as nearly as possible to the State of wild Animals inclosed in Cages; safe Custody is all that is attended to, and it must be evident to the most casual Observer that such Prisons are as much the Nurseries as the Receptacles of Crime,—Lyceums for the Education of Thieves. Mr. Plank, of Great Marlborough Street, informed me, that he has frequently seen young Thieves cry very much when first brought before a Magistrate; but that if they have been remanded for a Day or Two, the short Contamination of a Gaol during so brief a Period rendered the Offenders hardened and even insolent when again brought up. *W. A. Miles, Esq.*

Silence and Separation, even Solitude, do not appear sufficient to deter from Crime, because, notwithstanding this System is practised in America, Mr. Crawford observes, in his Evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Lords, that "even where Silence is maintained by immediate personal Chastisement (and the Whip is used very freely in some of the Penitentiaries), still it is found that Men will return;" and Captain Basil Hall remarks, with respect to the Gaols, that "the same Men come and go, round and round again."

Even in America, where Labour is valuable, and a Man can obtain Work, we find that the Penitentiaries fail in their Effect; that there is a standard Quantity of Felons whom nothing can deter from Crime; and who, since they prefer Prisons to Labour, may be considered more as Thieves by Choice than from Necessity.

From these Evidences and Inquiries I have concluded,—that Vice is so habitual that it is impossible to overcome the vicious Effects of wicked Education; that the Source of Crime commences in very early Life; and that, as the Feelings are too degraded to be made susceptible of Moral Education, a Gaol should be made so irksome that Self-convenience and Self-interest, in the Absence of Virtue or Repentance, may induce a Person to abstain from the Commission of Evil.

Certainty of Punishment without the Probability of Mitigation is one of the Secrets of effective Discipline. A Thief speculates upon Chance; "Chance" is his favourite Word; and however remote a Chance may be, he trusts to his Ingenuity and "good Luck" to reduce it to a Certainty. "Chance" is the Alpha and Omega of a Thief's Existence. There are Chances of Detection, Chances of Prosecution, and Chances of Acquittal*; but even after Conviction there are Chances of Mitigation, Chances of Indulgence in the Gaol, and even at the Foot of the Gallows one solitary Chance remains,—that the Royal Demise may save the Culprit's Life. Thieves calculate all Chances to a Nicety; and I am informed that they calculate that it is better to plunder than to enlist, with the Chance of a Bullet instead of a Halter.

I therefore suggest, that if Detection and Prosecution were made as certain as possible, and that when Sentence had been once pronounced it should be rigorously enforced, Persons might be scared from Evil; for no Situation can be more wretched and deplorable than one of annihilated Hope.

With regard to the most effectual Punishments, it is requisite to know the Habits of the People whom it is proposed to punish. They are restless, turbulent, fond of Liquors and Excitement; they are fond of communicating their Adventures to their Companions; they are, moreover, shy of Observation, and of indolent Habits. Such I consider to be the Characteristics of London Thieves, at least those Characteristics upon which Punishments can be framed; and as the State of an Offender in a Gaol should be made as dissimilar as

* Total Number of Persons who have been committed and subsequently *acquitted* in London and Middlesex, from 1828 to 1834 inclusive.

Committed	24,965	Acquitted	5,078
Not found guilty	7,881	No Bills found or not prosecuted	2,803
Found guilty	17,084	Total not found guilty	7,881
		Total found guilty	17,084
		Total committed	24,965

W. A. Miles, Esq.

possible to his general Habits when at Liberty, I should propose that the Discipline should be founded on —

Non-employment,	Separation,
Constant Inspection,	Silence,
Diet and short Sleep,	Labour.

Non-employment would be a Punishment, because Labour becomes habitual; it becomes a less Punishment every Day; but while the Effects of the Punishment are decreasing the Offender is every Day becoming hardened and callous.*

Labour ultimately becomes a Relief to the Monotony of the Day, and in that Case is a Boon to an Offender; therefore I think that Non-employment would increase the Irksomeness and Weariness of the Time. I have been informed that Prisoners have a great Dislike to the Monotony of Sunday, because they have no Employment. Mr. Crawford, in his Evidence, (fol. 4 Select Committee, House of Lords,) said, "One of the greatest Punishments upon the Men (at Wakefield) was to take away their Labour." Again, he observes, (fol. 7.) "I have visited the House of Correction at Springfield, in which Persons are occasionally confined in Solitude, without Employment, for a certain Period; this appears to me to be far more severe." The Reverend Chaplain of the Penitentiary states also, in his Evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, 1831, that he thinks "the Treadmill, as it is now used, does no Good at all; is convinced that nothing short of Seclusion will go to Reformation; in ordinary Cases of Conviction, where Three or Six Months Confinement are ordered, he would give Three Months of strict Solitary Confinement without Labour." This Opinion concerning Non-employment is corroborated by Mr. T. G. B. Estcourt, who states in his Evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons (562) with reference to Work, "I do not consider the hard Labour as any material Addition to the Weight of Punishments; on the contrary, I believe that if Imprisonment was altogether to be divested of Labour, and that during the Hours that Agricultural Labourers are now employed on the Tread-wheel, if they were confined in separate Cells, the Weight of the Punishment would be greater than it is when they are for a certain Number of Hours in the Day employed on the Tread-wheel;" he further states, that "Prisoners who have been confined in Solitude in the House of Correction in Wilts have requested to be employed in preference to being continued in Solitude without any Labour at all;" he adds, that "the Result of his Experience (563) leads him to conclude that Solitary Confinement, with no more Exercise than is barely sufficient for the Preservation of Health, is a severer Punishment than Labour on the Wheel with Seclusion during the Hours that the Prisoner is not at Labour.

On the 18th June Lieutenant Tracey, of the Westminster Bridewell, told me that he had just punished a Man by taking him from his Work, and that the Prisoner begged it again as an Indulgence.

As it is evident that Labour becomes a Relaxation, where Silence especially is enforced, I should suggest that it should be used not so much as a constant Punishment as for the Purposes of preserving Health.

It would be a severe and irksome Punishment if Prisoners were compelled to sit for a Number of Hours in the Yards, on Forms with Partitions on each Side, in Rows one above another, facing a blank Wall.

When I inspected the Gaols the Prisoners appeared to me to be more ill at Ease when seated on the Forms and looked at, than when in their separate Cells.

In a Cell a Feeling of solitary Independence may be generated; the Offender may turn his Back to the Inspection Hole, and indulge in a Train of vicious Thought, unmolested and unbroken by the Eye of the Turnkey resting upon his; a Thief, or even a viciously disposed Person, shrinks from the Glare of another's Eye, and if the Prisoners were compelled to sit in the above-

* Mr. Cope, the Governor of Newgate, informed me, that the most troublesome Men to manage were Prisoners under Sentence of long Fines or Terms of Imprisonment. An experienced Burglar, well acquainted with the Habits and Feelings of Thieves, assured me, that Reformation might in some Cases be effected, if young Offenders were punished for a short Period and released, as he judiciously observed, while the Severity is fresh upon their Memory, and before they have become habituated to the Treatment. He stated that, generally speaking, a Re-action takes place in about a Month or Six Weeks.

mentioned

W. A. Miles, Esq.

mentioned irksome Manner, with an Eye constantly upon them, it would be tedious and annoying. In Cases of Re-commitments, presuming that they are hardened Offenders, Policemen from the different Stations should attend as Yardsmen to assist in preserving Silence, so that extra Expense of Officers would be saved, and the Faces of habitual and incorrigible Thieves should be familiar in whatever Part of the Town they might attempt their subsequent Depredations.

Short Periods of Sleep I consider to be a severe Discipline, without being injurious to Health. Prisoners are now locked up for Ten or Twelve Hours; but I should suggest that the Twelve Hours should be divided into Two Periods, Four Hours for Sleep, Eight for Discipline, Night and Day, so that in the Twenty-four Hours the Prisoner will have had Eight Hours, of Two Periods of Four Hours, for Sleep.

Supposing the Discipline to consist in Non-employment or sedentary Duty, in walking, in Labour, and in Sleep, every Approximation to alternate Hours for each would be a severer Punishment. This Mode of Discipline would allow of an infinite Variety of Changes, so that every Time an Offender should be re-committed, he would experience a different Treatment, by which Means he could never speculate upon the Punishment he would receive.

Where Dietaries of Prisons are superior to those of Workhouses, they are preferred by Vagrants. The principal Turnkey at Giltspur Street Compter told me, that when Winter approaches, the same Vagrants return to that Prison in preference to the Workhouse. Lieutenant Tracey informed me, that one Woman in the Westminster Bridewell so highly approved of being well clothed and fed, that she wrote to her Sister, recommending her to get committed; which Advice was duly followed. Mr. Chesterton remarked to me, that in his Opinion the Regularity and Sobriety enforced within the Prison is the Means of considerably benefiting the Health of habitual Drunkards.

If Prisons had Workhouse Allowances, with the Addition of severe Discipline and proportionate Labour, there could be no Calculation as to Preference. It is probable that a Man could not undergo the severe Labour, if restrained to a low Diet; it is in Evidence that he could not, because the Allowances are increased, in Cases of long Imprisonment, in which Case the Offender is paid in extra Food for his Labour. But as all Convict Labour is the dearest that can be obtained, and as it is generally unproductive or losing, it could be exacted only in proportion to the Workhouse Diet, and be equally severe; because it hardly appears reasonable that the Community should be at the Expense of supplying extra Food, in order to enable a Man to do extra Work.

With respect to Silence and Separation, the Evidence on all Sides is so full and satisfactory that I can offer no remark, except the following Corroborations:

The Women at Westminster Bridewell are more separated than at Coldbath Fields, because in the latter they work a Tread-mill; at the Bridewell there is none, at present. The Women complain of the Separation, and say they would prefer Three Months with Mr. Chesterton at Coldbath Fields, though he is very severe, than pass One under the Lock of Lieutenant Tracey; so that the Women would purchase by an additional Labour of Two Months the Indulgence of Society for One. Mary Powell, an unfortunate Woman who once rode in her Carriage, but who is now a Victim to Drunkenness, and hardly ever out of a Prison, informed me that all the Women dread the Separation at the Bridewell. The Smashers or Passers of bad Money say they will risk Three false Pieces in the City rather than One in the Counties of Middlesex or Surrey, or in Westminster, because they abhor the silent System; and the Head Turnkey, John Anderson, at Giltspur Street Compter, informed me that his Gaol was becoming more crowded, as Silence is not there adopted.*

However zealous the Governors of the different Prisons may be to enforce Silence, I think that every Prisoner should have a solitary sleeping Cell. Every

* In the Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the Prison Discipline Society, Boston, I find that the Gaols wherein Prisoners are allowed to assemble together are reported to be, in a greater or less Degree, filthy; but in the Prisons where the silent System and Separation are adopted Neatness and Cleanliness prevail; and I beg to observe that Cleanliness of Person generally bespeaks and might tend to generate Cleanliness of Mind.

W. A. Miles, Esq.

Prison could be made to contain a greater Number than returned in the Schedules relating to Gaols, 1835, if the Day-rooms or Sleeping-rooms were converted into separate Cells. It appears to me that Cells could be constructed in a cheaper Manner than by using solid Masonry; the Object would be to prevent Sound passing from one to another, and that Object would be obtained by constructing hollow Walls of Brick, (faced with Cement for the Purpose of detecting any Attempt of Removal of Bricks,) and then filling up the intervening Space with Sawdust; or by building the Wall in a Series of hollow Chambers or Flues, which would not only preclude the passing of Sound, but would be at once dry and Fire-proof.*

* See Models.

The following Table shows the Number of extra Cells that would be required in the different Gaols of the Metropolis:

Names of Prisons.	Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping Cells.	Greatest Number in the Prison at One Time.	Number of Extra Cells required for each Prisoner to be separated.
New Prison, Clerkenwell - -	32	414	382
House of Correction, do. - -	417	1,245	828
Surrey County Gaol - - -	173	208	35
Brixton House of Correction -	148	270	122
Newgate - - - -	19	414	395
Giltspur Street Compter - -	22	163	141
Borough Compter, Southwark -	6	96	90
Westminster Bridewell - -	288	355	67
Total - -	1,105	3,165	2,060

Before I conclude I wish to make the following Remarks upon the Treatment of juvenile Offenders. It appears that, generally speaking, they are incorrigible, and that the only Means of preventing the Recommission of Crime is to remove them from their Associates and from Temptation. To transport them immediately, without having previously trained them to Labour and endeavoured to instil into them Habits of Industry, is to burthen a Colony with a worthless and a useless Set of Vagabonds. I therefore suggest that the destitute juvenile Offenders, as well as the frequently recommitted juvenile Thief, should be trained to work in this Country; the one should be subsequently transported, the other subjected to compulsory Emigration.

If the youthful Offender, whose Crimes have drawn upon him the immediate Punishment of Transportation, behaves himself well during his Term of Home Imprisonment, he may be rewarded by a shorter Sentence in the Colony. As for the destitute Youth whose Offences are less glaring, he should be subjected to compulsory Emigration, and be free on his Arrival, but placed under the Care of the Local Government.

To build a Prison for this Class of Offenders would be a great Expense, but I beg leave to suggest with the greatest Deference that the Island of Brownsea, in Poole Harbour, is well calculated for their Reception; it is Five Miles in Circumference, the Soil is sandy, the Situation healthy; it is surrounded by deep Waters and soft Mud to a considerable Distance; and that a few Row-boats and well-trained Newfoundland Dogs could prevent Escape. On this Island every Employment could be used, every Trade could be taught, and in so large a Tract of Land the Boys could be trained to the Use of the Plough and other agricultural Labours.

W. A. Miles.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Wednesday next, Three o'Clock.

580

APPENDIX

TO

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

APPOINTED

TO INQUIRE INTO THE PRESENT STATE

OF THE SEVERAL

GAOLS AND HOUSES OF CORRECTION

IN

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Part II.

1835.

LIST OF THE APPENDIX.

Page

No. 1.—Extracts relative to Gaols from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations - 175

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent by Order of the House of Lords to the Governors of the County Gaols of England and Wales, and Gaols of Cities and Boroughs, and certain other Corporations having Gaols, as to the Average Number of Prisoners, Gross Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, Salaries of Officers, Number and Description of Officers, Officers Emoluments, Officers fed or not in the Prisons, Schoolmasters or Provision made for Instruction, Debtors dieted or not at the Expense of the Counties - - - - - - - - 195

No. 3.—Abstract of Return of the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions of the County of Surrey to Questions from the Select Committee of the House of Lords, as to Silence being kept in Gaols and Houses of Correction - - - - - - 224

No. 4.—Letter from the Clerk of the Peace of the County of Bucks to the Chairman of the Select Committee on Gaols, &c., inclosing the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the House of Correction at Aylesbury, submitted to the Judges of Assize in 1834, who declined to subscribe the same - - - - - 226

No. 5.—Answers received to Questions sent out by the Committee of the Prison Discipline Society to the several Gaols and Houses of Correction - - - - 227

No. 6.—List of Insane Persons confined in the several Prisons included in the Gaol Act (4 G. 4. c. 64.), according to the Returns made at Michaelmas 1834 - - - 235

No. 7.—Letter from Mr G. Poynder to the Earl of Brecknock, inclosing a List of the Persons admitted into he Kent Lunatic Asylum - - - - - - 236

No. 8.—Account of the Inspectors General of Prisons in Ireland, showing the Difference of Expense of keeping Prisoners employed and unemployed - - - - - 237

No. 9.—Extracts from the Report of the Visiting Justices of the House of Correction for Middlesex, Cold Batn Fields, made in April Session 1835 - - - - - *ib.*

No. 10.—Dietary of French and Spanish Prisoners of War in Health - - - - - - 240

No. 11.—A Return of the Number of Prisoners in the condemned Yard and Cells in His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate, on the 1st of June, under Sentence of Death - - - *ib.*

No. 12.—Report of Gaol Committee, Reading, Berks - - - - - *ib.*

No. 13.—Statement of productive Prison Labour in Petworth House of Correction - - 244

No. 14.—A Return of the Number of Convicts transported in each Year, from 1817 to 1835 inclusive - - - - - - - - - - - - 245

No. 15.—Mr. Chesterton's Remarks on Prison Discipline - - - - - *ib.*

No. 16.—Rev. J. Brown's Explanation and Addition to his Evidence - - - - - 248

No. 17.—Plans of the Tread mill at Gloucester - - - - - - - 249

No. 18.—Letter from J. H. Capper, Esquire, respecting Women Transports having been placed on board a Male Convict Hulk - - - - - - - 250

No. 19.—Letters from Mr. G. L. Taylor on the Subject of altering the Prison Buildings of Dartmoor into solitary Cells, with an Estimate of the Expense and Plans thereof - *ib.*

No. 20.—Examinations taken by the Visiting Justices at the Oxford Castle, 19th June 1835, with reference to certain Evidence reported at Page 51 of the Appendix to the First Report on the State of the Gaols and Houses of Correction, headed "Oxford Gaol and Justitia Hulk" - - - - - - 252

No. 21.—Minutes of Evidence taken on board the Convict Prison Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard, before the Lords Select Committees appointed to inquire into the State of Gaols and Houses of Correction - - - - - - 254

No. 22.—Extracts from the Evidence of Adam Duff, Esquire, given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the State of Prisons in Scotland, 18th April 1826 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 272

PLANS.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

EXTRACTS relative to GAOLS from APPENDIX to REPORT on MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

Die Jovis, 25° Junii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

THE Lord in the Chair lays upon the Table the following Paper, which had been prepared in pursuance of the Order of the Committee.

The same is inspected.

EXTRACTS relating to GAOLS from Parts III. and IV. of Appendix to Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the State of the Municipal Corporations of England and Wales, 1835. (*See* Appendix to First Report, page 151.)

Index to the Extracts.

Extracts from Appendixes:
Aldborough, Suffolk - P. 175
Altringham, Cheshire - *ib.*
Appleby, Westmorland - 176
Ashton-under-Lyne - - *ib.*
Beaumaris, Anglesea - - *ib.*
Beccles, Suffolk - - *ib.*
Bedford - - - *ib.*
Berwick-upon-Tweed - *ib.*
Beverley, Yorkshire - - 177
Bewdley, Worcestershire - *ib.*
Bishop's Castle, Salop - *ib.*
Boston, Lincolnshire - - *ib.*
Bridgnorth, Salop - - 178
Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk *ib.*
Caerwys, Flintshire - - *ib.*
Cambridge - - - *ib.*
Carlisle - - - 179
Chester - - - *ib.*
Chesterfield, Derbyshire - 180
Clitheroe, Lancashire - *ib.*
Clun, Salop - - - *ib.*
Congleton, Cheshire - - *ib.*
Coventry - - - *ib.*
Daventry, Northamptonshire 181
Denbigh - - - *ib.*
Derby - - - *ib.*
Dinas Mwddy, Merioneth - *ib.*
Doncaster, Yorkshire - - *ib.*
Durham - - - *ib.*

Extracts from Appendixes—*cont.*
Eye, Suffolk - P. 181
Godmanchester, Huntingdonshire - - - 182
Grantham - - *ib.*
Grimsby, Great, Lincolnshire *ib.*
Harwich, Essex - - *ib.*
Hedon, Yorkshire - - 183
Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire - - *ib.*
Huntingdon - - *ib.*
Ipswich, Suffolk - - *ib.*
Kidderminster, Worcester - 184
Kingston-upon-Hull, Yorkshire - - - *ib.*
Kirkby-in-Kendal, Westmorland - - - 185
Lancaster - - *ib.*
Leicester - - - *ib.*
Leeds, Yorkshire - - 186
Lichfield, Staffordshire - *ib.*
Lincoln - - - *ib.*
Liverpool - - *ib.*
Louth, Lincolnshire - 187
Ludlow - - - *ib.*
Lynn, Norfolk - - *ib.*
Maldon, Essex - - 188
Morpeth, Northumberland - *ib.*
Newark, Nottinghamshire - *ib.*
Newborough, Anglesea - *ib.*

Extracts from Appendixes—*cont.*
Newcastle-under-Lyme - P. 188
Newcastle-upon-Tyne - 189
Newport, Salop - - *ib.*
Northampton - - *ib.*
Norwich - - - *ib.*
Nottingham - - 190
Orford, Suffolk - - 191
Oswestry, Salop - - *ib.*
Overton, Flintshire - - *ib.*
Pontefract - - - *ib.*
Preston - - *ib.*
Rhuddlan, Flintshire - - 192
Richmond, Yorkshire - *ib.*
Ruthin, Denbighshire - *ib.*
Ruyton, Salop - - *ib.*
Scarborough, Yorkshire - *ib.*
Shrewsbury - - *ib.*
Southwold, Suffolk - - 193
Stafford - - - *ib.*
Stamford - - - *ib.*
Stockton, Durham - - *ib.*
Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire - - - *ib.*
Tamworth, Staffordshire - *ib.*
Thetford - - *ib.*
Walsall, Staffordshire - 194
Warwick - - *ib.*
Wenlock, Staffordshire - *ib.*
York - - - *ib.*

Extracts from the Appendix, Parts III. and IV.

The Gaol consists of a single Cell under the Town Hall, in which disorderly Persons are occasionally confined. Prisoners committed for Trial or for any lengthened Period are sent to the Gaol of the Liberty of St. Etheldred at Woodbridge, to which the Magistrates have by their Charter the Power to commit. Aldborough Gaol, Suffolk, p. 2056.

The Gaoler is appointed by the Bailiffs during their Pleasure. He has no Salary, and is generally one of the Constables.

Altringham Gaol, Cheshire, p. 2576.

There is a Lock-up House attached to the Court-house; but it was built at the Expense of the Lord of the Manor, and is his Property.

Appleby Gaol, Westmorland, p. 1428.

There is no Borough Gaol; the County Gaol and House of Correction are both situated within the Borough.

Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, p. 1432.

There is no Gaol at Ashton. Prisoners are committed to the County Gaol at Lancaster or the House of Correction at Salford, according to the Nature of their Offences. Debtors are carried to the County Gaol at Lancaster to be confined.

Beaumaris Gaol, Anglesea, p. 2587.

The Charter provides, "That the said Mayor, Bayliffes, and Burgesses, and their Successors, may and shall have within the said Borough and the Liberties of the same their own proper Prison and Gaol, and the keeping of all Prisoners attached or to be attached, or in anywise to Prison adjudged within the Liberties of the said Borough, as well at the Sentence, Commendment, and Suite of us, our Heirs and Successors, as of other whomsoever, there to remain until, according to the Law and Custom of our Realm of England, they shall be thence delivered; and that the Bayliffes of the said Borough be and shall be the Keeper of the same Gaol."

This Duty is performed by one of the Serjeants-at-Mace.

The Borough and County Gaol are under the same Roof, and were rebuilt in 1829. Since that Time several of the County Magistrates, who happen to be Members of the Corporation, visit both Gaols in rotation.

There used formerly to be great Complaints respecting the State of the old Gaol; the present Gaol is well situated, airy, and healthful, and appears to be duly regulated and kept in admirable Order.

The new Borough Gaol was not built at the Expense of the Corporation, but by a Rate on the Borough. It was estimated that the Population of the Borough was 1-20th that of the whole County, and upon that Calculation it was agreed that the Borough should bear that Proportion of the entire Cost of building and maintaining the new Gaols.

Beccles Gaol, Suffolk. p. 2138.

The Corporation are empowered by their Charter to have a Gaol within the Town or Fen "to retain and imprison therein the Body and Bodies of such Person and Persons as shall be committed or imprisoned for or about any Causes, Matters, or Things touching or concerning the Fen;" and the Portreeve, or his Deputy, for whom he is made responsible, is appointed the Keeper.

The Gaoler's Fees are regulated by an ancient Law; but, with the Court, the Gaol has fallen into disuse.

Bedford Gaol, p. 2116.

Prisoners are committed by the Borough Magistrates to the County Gaol and House of Correction, which are both within the Town. These Committals are made under the Gaol Act.

The Prisons are not large enough to admit of a complete Classification of the Prisoners according to the Provisions of the Act, there being only Seven Yards in the Gaol, and Five in the House of Correction. The Classification, however, appears to be judiciously varied from Time to Time, and to be as perfect as the limited Size of the Prison will allow. In the Gaol only Two of the Yards can be inspected from the House of the Governor, but in the House of Correction the Inspection is perfect. The Female Prisoners are employed in washing, and each Prison has a Tread-mill for the Men. Great Pains are taken to prevent them from conversing with each other. A Wooden Partition is placed between each Two Prisoners while at work on the Tread-mill, and in the Intervals of their Work they walk about the Yard singly, and at such a Distance as to prevent Conversation. The Meals of the Prisoners are taken in their respective Cells. The Expense of their Maintenance is about 3*s.* a Week each, which is paid out of the Borough Rate. The Chaplain attends and reads the Church Service every Morning, and frequently converses with and instructs the Prisoners.

On the whole, the Management of these Prisons appears to be very judicious.

The old Borough Gaol has been pulled down.

Berwick-upon-Tweed Gaol, p. 1447.

There is One Gaol in the Borough, which is visited by the Borough Magistrates.

It is situated over the Town Hall.

Great Complaints were made of its State and Condition.

It is situate on the Third Floor of the Town Hall.

The Gaoler resides at a considerable Distance from the Prison.

The Debtors and Felons occupy the same Floor, their Day-rooms being separated merely by a Wooden Door. There is but One Day-room for Debtors of both Sexes, and only Three Sleeping-rooms, in each of which Three Beds are placed.

The Debtors and Felons may converse together during the Day.

There is no Yard or Airing-room attached to the Prison.

The

The Debtors are allowed, at certain Times in the Course of the Day, to walk on the Roof of the Town Hall.

There is but One Day-room for Criminals, of whatever Description they may be.

The Day-rooms are very insecure; and it is necessary sometimes, by way of securing the Prisoners, to confine them in their Sleeping-rooms in Irons.

The Criminals have Four Sleeping-rooms, and there is One Room for refractory Prisoners. Three of these Cells are Fourteen Feet square, the other is smaller.

It is not uncommon, when the Prisoners are numerous, to place Three or Four in a Room. In Cases of Emergency there have been more.

The Criminals have no Place for Exercise.

There is a Place under the Hall where the Criminals are employed by the Parish in the Daytime in breaking Stones for the Roads.

There is no Matron or Female Officer.

Until very lately there was no Chaplain to the Gaol; one, however, is now appointed.

He has a Salary of 20*l.* a Year paid to him by the Corporation.

The Average Number of Debtors confined at one Time is Six; it seldom exceeds Twelve. At present there is only One.

The Average Number of Criminals is Twenty.

There are sometimes as many as Thirty-two.

At present there are Twenty-two.

Of these Seven are Females; a large Proportion of them are Children. All the Prisoners now confined as Criminals are so confined for Offences against the Revenue Laws; which is usually the Case, the Neighbourhood of Berwick to the Borders of Scotland affording great Opportunity and Temptation to commit such Offences.

The Gaol was built and is repaired at the Expense of the Corporation.

The Prisoners are supported out of the Rate in the Nature of a County Rate.

Before the Time when that Rate was imposed (1827) they were maintained by the Corporation.

The raising a Rate for these Payments was made Matter of Complaint to us. It was urged, that as the Gaol was given by the Charter to the Corporation, who were established for the Government of the Town, and provided with large Funds for that Purpose, all Expenses connected with the Gaol or the Administration of Justice should be borne by them.

Beverley Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1460.

There is One Gaol, under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates, who visit it occasionally. The Gaol is only used for the Confinement of Persons committed for Trial, those sentenced to simple Confinement, and Debtors; Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour are confined in the House of Correction for the East Riding of the County, which is built within the Liberties of the Town. There are not in general many Prisoners in the Borough Gaol. It has been lately built, and is convenient for the Purposes to which it is applied. It admits of the Separations required by the Gaol Act. The Expense of building the Gaol was paid out of the County Rate for the Borough. The Gaol Allowance and the Gaoler's Salary of Thirty Guineas a Year are also paid out of that Rate.

Bewdley Gaols, Worcestershire, p. 1773.

There are Two Gaols, One for Criminals and One for Debtors, sufficiently well built, dry and cleanly, but somewhat deficient in point of Space. Prisoners are not however often confined here; at the Time of the Inquiry both Gaols were empty.

Bishop's Castle Gaol, Salop, p. 2599

The Charter of Eliz. grants to the Bailiff and Burgesses to "have within the Borough aforesaid, or the Liberties of the same, a Prison and Gaol for the Custody of all Persons attached or to be attached or arrested, &c., as well by our Order and Command as by the Order and Command of the Bailiff, &c." In the subsequent Charters the Power to commit to the County Gaol appears to stand instead of this Privilege.

There is, however, a Dungeon, consisting of One Cell, in which Prisoners are occasionally confined for a Night or two till they can be brought before the Borough Justices. It is a damp, cold Place under the Town Hall, built nearly a Century ago.

For the Confinement of Debtors there is a Room adjoining the Town Hall; Instances have occurred, but rarely, of its being so used for short Periods.

These Places are under the Superintendence of the Borough Justices.

Boston Gaol, p. 2157

The Borough Gaol consists of Four Yards, Seven Day-rooms, and Sixteen sleeping Cells. It is impossible to carry the Provisions of the Law respecting the Classification of Prisoners into effect in this Prison. When there are prisoners of all Descriptions here, the Division is as follows:—One Yard for Male Debtors, One for Male Felons and Convicts sentenced to Hard Labour, One for Male Misdemeanants and Vagrants, and the remaining Yard for Female Prisoners of all Descriptions. Thus there is no Provision for a Separation of the untried from the convicted, the young Prisoner who is committed for the first Time for some small Offence from the old and hardened Offender, or the wandering Outcast, who comes under the Description of a Vagrant, from him who has committed the most aggravated Misdemeanor.

Most peculiarly hard is the Condition of the Female Prisoners, all of whom are obliged to associate constantly together. The young Girl who is committed for some trifling Offence is consigned over Day and Night to the Society of the hardened Thief and abandoned Prostitute.

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

Prostitute. The Gaoler indeed permits Female Debtors to reside in that Part of the Gaol which is occupied by himself and his Family, but the Females committed for Crimes and Misdemeanors are in all Instances associated together in the same Yard. Two more Yards might be very easily added to the present Gaol, which contains within its Walls ample Space for that Purpose. The Magistrates occasionally, but not very frequently, visit this Prison. Divine Service is performed here once every Sunday, and New Testaments are placed in the Day-rooms. The Gaoler informed us that the Chaplain never attended the Gaol except at the Time of Divine Service, nor had any Communication in the Way of Conversation with the Prisoners. He said that he thought the free Conversation among the Prisoners did them a great deal of Harm. Indeed it appears to us that Deterioration and Corruption of the moral Character must almost necessarily result from Confinement in such a Prison as this. The Number of Prisoners committed to this Gaol was,—

In 1830 - - -	308
1831 - - -	290
1832 - - -	289

The Chaplain of the Gaol is elected during Pleasure by the Mayor and Magistrates.

The Salary of the Chaplain of the Gaol is, for the ordinary Duties, 26*l.* a Year.

The Gaoler is elected by the Mayor and Aldermen during Pleasure, and is generally a Freeman.

The Gaoler receives yearly, for performing the ordinary Duties of his Office, 62*l.* from the Corporation, and 18*l.* from the Parish, and also 5*l.* for cleaning and whitewashing the Gaol. He occasionally receives Gratuities for Accommodation granted to Debtors beyond what is afforded by the ordinary Regulations of the Prison. These Payments are voluntary, no Demand being made on any Debtor.

Bridgnorth Gaol, Salop, p. 1781.

A new Gaol was built by the Corporation in 1823. It consists of Cells for Debtors, Two Rooms and Cells for Felons, and a Court-yard. The Gaol is not regularly visited.

Bury St. Edmund's Gaol, Suffolk, p. 2177.

The Borough Gaol has been disused since 1805, and the Prisoners committed by the Borough Magistrates are confined in the County Gaol, which is within the Precincts of the Town. The Corporation is bound by Charter to provide for the Maintenance of these Prisoners, and in 1805 they made the present Arrangement with the County Magistrates, by which they have secured a much more perfect Classification of the Prisoners than the Limits of their own Gaol would allow. They have also obtained for their own Magistrates the Right of visiting the County Gaol, a Right however which is seldom exercised; and the Reasons assigned for this Neglect of Superintendence on their Part are the excellent Character of the present Gaoler, and the regular monthly Visits of the County Magistracy. We visited the Gaol, and highly approve of the present Arrangement.

Caerwys Gaol, Flintshire, p. 2610.

The only Place of Confinement for Offenders within the Borough is the Round House, in which no one has been imprisoned for the last Three Years, and then it was only used as a Place of temporary safe Custody for a Lunatic.

This Lock-up House and a Pinfold belong to the Borough.

In former Times the Assizes were held here; a Building now occupied as a Barn was then the Town Hall, and a small Hovel opposite to it furnished Lodgings for the Judges of that Period. The County Gaol of that Day is now also a private Dwelling House, the Property of Mr. Kenrick of Mostyn.

Cambridge Gaol, pp. 2194, 2195.

The Gaol contains Eight Yards, Eight Day-rooms, and One small Yard with a solitary Cell. The greatest Number of Prisoners in the Gaol within the last Year was Forty-seven.

Total Number of Prisoners committed in 1830 - -	184
Ditto - - - ditto - - 1831 - -	234
Ditto - - - ditto - - 1832 - -	208
Recommitted in the Year - - - -	17

There was no Death within the last Year; the Proportion of Sick to the whole Number was One Twelfth. The weekly Cost of the untried Prisoners was 1*s.* 11*d.*, that of the convicted 3*s.* 4½*d.*

	1830.	1831.	1832.
Committed for Trial, Males - -	48	37	69
Ditto - - Females - -	6	4	14
	54	41	83
Debtors - - - - -	3	2	3
Vagrants - - - -	17	33	28

The Prisoners who work are allowed Two and a Half Pounds of the best Bread and a Pint of Table Beer a Day; they have Salt and warm Water with their Bread, but no other Food, except on Saturday, when Cheese and Onions are allowed. The untried Prisoners,

who do not work, have One Pound and a Half of Bread a Day, but no Beer; they have in addition whatever they can procure from their Friends. Formerly they were allowed Three Pounds of Brown Bread, but they prefer Two Pounds and a Half of White; indeed their Allowance is nearly Two Pounds and Three Quarters. This Diet has been found sufficient; Prisoners have lived thus for Two Years without Injury to their Health, and have left the Prison in better Health than they enjoyed when they entered it. The Prisoners work on the Tread-mill; there are not at all Times a sufficient Number to keep the Mill constantly going; they work Twenty Minutes at the Mill, and then rest Ten; and the Time spent in this Way is from October to March Nine Hours, and from March to October Ten Hours a Day. The Females are employed in washing and mending; their Diet is the same as that of the Men, with the Addition of Tea twice a Day, and sometimes a little Flour. The Gaoler said he thought that the Prisoners go out of the Gaol better Characters than they come in; that the Women were in general better than the Men, and that their Health is improved in the Gaol. The Classification of the Prisoners is varied according to Circumstances; the Female Debtors are always kept separate; young Prisoners are in general separated from old Offenders. The Prisoners are provided with Bibles, Prayer Books, and Tracts. The Chaplain is in the Gaol on Sunday from Eleven o'Clock till it is nearly dusk, except at Dinner-time; there are Two Services on Sunday; the Chaplain frequently comes on other Days, and he performs Divine Service every Wednesday Afternoon. The Gaoler has an Inspection of every Cell and Day-room. There have been Instances of Men getting from one Yard to another; refractory Prisoners are sometimes put into solitary Confinement, but never for a longer Period than Three Days. The Magistrates very frequently visit the Gaol; the Gaoler, who has held his Office Thirteen Years, said, that a Fortnight had never to his Knowledge passed without a Visit from some Magistrate. The Surgeon of the Gaol (who is an Alderman and a Magistrate) receives 50*l.* a Year for Medicine and surgical Attendance at the Gaol; he also attends on the Vagrants, who are sent by the Magistrates to a Place called the Spinning-house: he has held his Office for Sixteen Years.

In 1827 an Act of Parliament passed, empowering the Magistrates to expend 15,000*l.* in building a new Gaol. A Contract was made for that Purpose, and between 7,000*l.* and 8,000*l.* were to be paid for building the Gaol. No Account has been published of the Sum expended. The Amount of all the Rates levied is 11,275*l.* 7*s.* 11¼*d.*; the Sum expended, including the Expenses of obtaining the Act, the Purchase of the Site, the Cost of building the Gaol, of Drainage, erecting a Tread-mill, Interest on Loans, Salaries, Allowances, and other Miscellaneous Matters, up to the Audit on the 27th August 1833, is 15,738*l.* 3*s.* 1¼*d.*

There is no City Gaol.

The County Gaol is situate within the City, as is the County House of Correction. These are visited by the County Magistrates. They are used for the Committal of Prisoners for the City Sessions and the Confinement of Debtors under Process from the City Court. Carlisle, pp 1475, 1476.

The Gaol is very complete, with every Convenience for Classification.

The Number of Debtors usually varies from One to Three.

The Corporation allow the Gaoler Five Guineas a Year.

The Expense of supporting all Prisoners is borne by the County. This, in the Case of Prisoners in execution under Process from the City Court, was complained of as being a Hardship upon the County, and it was thought that if the Power of Imprisonment for small Debts in that Court was permitted, the Expense should be defrayed out of the Corporate Funds.

There are Two Gaols within the Liberties, viz. the City Gaol and House of Correction. Chester Gaols, p. 2626.

The former was built wholly at the Corporation Expense in 1808, the latter by a Rate on the City.

They are under the Management of the same Gaoler and Turnkey, being contiguous and communicating with each other.

Both were built, and have since undergone Alterations, with a view to the Classification of Prisoners. These Improvements were carried into effect by Estimate, Tender, and Contract. The Architects, as well as the Persons who took the Contracts, were wholly unconnected with the Corporation.

The Mayor and Three Senior Aldermen are the Visiting Magistrates, which Duty they perform periodically. There were no Complaints of the State or Management of the Gaol, which is remarkable for its clean and orderly Regulation, as well as for its healthful and airy Situation.

The Grand Jury visit the Gaol every Sessions, and furnish a Report in Writing to the Magistrates; these Reports have been uniformly favourable, and have particularly borne Testimony to the Cleanliness of the Gaol.

There is not a sufficient Force of Prisoners to call for the Erection of a Tread-mill; they are employed in Shops set apart for picking Oakum and sawing Wood.

The Chaplain has 50*l.* a Year from the Corporation, and the like Sum from the County Rate.

The Surgeon 30*l.* a Year, and provides Medicines.

The Matron 30*l.* a Year.

The Gaoler has been Ten Years in Office.

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

On the 7th September 1833 there were in Custody—
Six Prisoners under Sentence ("serving Time.")
Seven for Trial on Charges of Felony, viz. Four Men and Three Women.
Four for Trial on Charges of Assault.
Two for Disobedience of Orders in Bastardy, and
Two Debtors.
There were Fifty-eight Prisoners altogether in March, Sixty-nine on the 13th May.
The Gaol Delivery was on the 2d August.

Chesterfield, Derbyshire, p. 1790.

The Magistrates commit to the County Gaol. There is no Borough Gaol.

Clitheroe Gaol, Lancashire, p. 1487.

There is a Borough Gaol, consisting of Two Cells; it is not very convenient, and is said to be incurably damp. On that Account Debtors under Process from the Borough Court are not confined there, but in a large Room in the Town Hall, which is dry and commodious.

The Gaol is not used, except as a Lock-up House for Persons committed to Preston or Lancaster. It rarely occurs that a Prisoner is detained there all Night. The Gaol is visited by the County Magistrates; the In-bailiff also superintends it.

Clun Gaol, Salop, p. 2643.

There is a Lock-up House under the Town Hall, the Property of the Lord of the Manor. It was made a Subject of Complaint that the ancient Court-house of the Borough had been pulled down by the Lord of the Manor. Whatever the Merits of the Case, the Event occurred so long ago as in 1780. It was stated, that previous to that Time the Court-house stood adjoining to the Castle (now in Ruins); that it had Two Entrances, one to the Lord's own Court, the other to that of the Borough; that the Borough Court was in fair Order, wainscotted and floored, with a Place of Confinement for Prisoners underneath; whereas the Lord's Court was an unfloored and ruinous Barn.

In confirmation of this Statement, among various Documents produced on behalf of the Burgesses, was one entitled "Clun Villa.—The Answere of the Bayliffes and Burgesses of the Burrow and Corporasõn of Clun to the Purposialls of Hen^{y} Howard, Esq^{re}, Lord of the Honor of Clun, touching the said Bayliffes and Burgesses' Priviledges there, as followest. P^{r} 1669."

The 4th Article of which is in these Terms: "And in answere as for our Part of the Court-house and the Dungeon underneath, it was built in our late Queen Eliz$^{th's}$ Time. Questionless, y^{e} one Part, where y^{e} said Lord keeps his Court Barron, by y^{e} s^{d} Queen; y^{e} other Part, where we keep our Corporasõn and King's Court, by us, as well as our Market-house, and built upon our own Burgesses undevided Land; as, for Example, it is seperated with a greet Hill, and thare being 2 Dores, y^{e} one into the Lord's End, y^{e} other into our End; and that we have kept our Corporasõn and King Court ever since it was built, and areasted there with the sace at all Times, and imprisoned allways several Persons in our Dungeon, and repaired our s^{d} End; which Possession is a good Title, whereas no one can gainsay to the contrary."

Of course this amounts only to their own Allegation, made at a remote Period, as to the Right.

Congleton Gaol, Cheshire, p. 2654.

The Borough Gaol is the Property of the Corporation, having been built and upheld at their Expense. An old Gaol was pulled down, and the new one built upon its site in 1804.

The Charter provides, "that the Serjeant-at-Mace of the Borough for the Time being, called the Mayor's Serjeant, shall be Keeper of the said Gaol or Prison."

It is under the Control of the Borough Justices, and visited by the Grand Jury.

Very few Persons, however, are confined in it; upon criminal Charges they are seldom confined more than One Night, and are then removed to the House of Correction at Knutsford. If any Remand to the Borough Gaol takes place, it is only from Day to Day, the Magistrates being always on the Spot. The few Debtors confined here alone remain for any Length of Time, till discharged under the Insolvent Acts. The Gaol appeared to be tolerably well kept and regulated. The Cells underground are dark and rather damp.

Coventry Gaol, p. 1804.

There is a Gaol belonging to the City, and a House of Correction united with it. The Gaol has been recently rebuilt. At the Spring Assizes 1819 the former Gaol was presented by the Grand Jury as insufficient. An Act of Parliament (3 Geo. 4.) was in consequence procured for building a new Gaol on a Piece of Ground belonging to the Marquis of Hertford, the then Recorder, and other Persons, situated without the Precincts of the City. The Act was opposed by several Persons on the Ground that the proposed Site was "damp, unwholesome, and unfit," but the Opposition was eventually abandoned, and the Act passed. The Expense of carrying it through the Legislature amounted to 585*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* After the Bill had been obtained, and before the building of the new Gaol had commenced, the General Gaol Act, 4th Geo. 4. c. 64. passed, giving more extensive Powers to the Magistrates. Hereupon the Magistrates became not disinclined to abandon the former Act; and on a Memorial being presented by the Parish Officers against the proposed Plan, on the Ground of the Unfitness of the Site, the Removal of the Gaol was given up; and the Land adjoining the

the Site of the old Gaol was purchased by the Corporation, and a new Gaol built in the Place of the old one.

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

The total Expense to the City, including the Purchase of the additional Ground, amounted to 16,009*l.* 5*s.* This Expense was defrayed by Money borrowed on the Mortgage of the Rates to the Amount of 15,760*l.*, and by the Sale of old Materials, which produced 485*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*

The Gaol is spacious, healthy, and well regulated. It admits of the Classification required by Act of Parliament.

There is one Gaoler, who has the Management both of the Gaol and of the House of Correction, and Two Turnkeys. This is found to be a sufficient Establishment.

The Gaoler has a Salary of 200*l.* a Year and a House. He is paid the actual Expenses out of Pocket on the Transport of Convicts, and One Guinea a Day for his own Expenses on such Occasions.

The Turnkeys are allowed 40*l.* a Year each, and Apartments.

A Matron is likewise appointed, with a Salary of 20*l.* a Year.

The Chaplain to the Gaol formerly received a Salary of 100*l.* per Annum. About a Year since it was reduced to 75*l.*

The Surgeon of the Gaol formerly received a Salary of 50*l.* This also has been latterly reduced to 35*l.*

The Average Number of Prisoners confined in the Gaol and House of Correction is about Forty. As many as Sixty-four have been confined at the same Time. Of the Average, about Five are Prisoners for Debt. The Average Duration of Imprisonment of Criminals is that of Debtors about Fifty-nine Days.

The Gaol is also used as a Lock-up House for Persons remanded for further Examination.

The Visiting Magistrates are appointed at every Quarter Sessions. Their Practice is to visit the Gaol Two or Three Times in every Quarter, and more frequently if sent for by the Gaoler.

This Establishment appeared to us to be conducted in a very satisfactory Manner.

There is a Watch-house for the Custody of nightly Offenders, which is under the Direction of the Commissioners of the Street Act.

A new Gaol was built about Six Years ago. A Gaoler is appointed by the Magistrates, with a Salary of 10*l.* a Year, and a Room to live in in the Gaol.

Daventry Gaol, Northampton, p. 1844.

There is a Lock-up House belonging equally to the County and Borough. The County pays for the Repairs, the Borough contributing to the County Rate. It is not much used, except at Fair Times, but largely then.

Denbigh Gaols, p. 2665.

Anciently there was a Borough Gaol within the Precincts of the Castle of Denbigh, which is still called the Burgesses Tower; it is now, with the rest of that Structure, a mere Ruin.

All Prisoners for Offences committed within the Borough are sent to the County Gaol at Ruthin.

The Gaol of the Borough was formerly the County Gaol; it was purchased and has been altered by the Corporation. It does not admit of all the Classification required by the recent Act, but it is convenient. A House of Correction is in the same Building.

Derby Gaol, p. 1851.

Besides the Pinfold and the Stocks there is a Crib, a little Prison, in which a drunken Man was lately confined for a few Hours until he was sober, or at least fit to be set at liberty. The Crib was built not long since, and the Country it was said is unwilling to pay for it.

Dinas Mwddy Gaols, Merioneth, p. 2674.

There is a Gaol within the Borough under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates, and regularly visited by them. It has recently been built by the Corporation at an Expense of 3,000*l.*, according to a Plan from the Secretary of State's Office. There are Four Airing-courts, and it is capable of Six Classifications.

Doncaster Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1503.

It is not generally used for the Confinement of Prisoners convicted; they are sent for Confinement to the House of Correction at Wakefield. It is however used for Confinement of young Persons after Conviction, to prevent their associating with other convicted Prisoners.

The Use of the Gaol is allowed to the County Magistrates, and Persons are confined there who are to be tried for Offences committed in the West Riding of Yorkshire at the Sessions for the West Riding, which are held at Doncaster once a Year.

There is no Gaol in the City.

Durham, City of, p. 1515.

The Gaol, which is very small, consisting of only One Yard, One Day-room, and Two sleeping Cells, is Part of the Poor-house. The greatest Number of Prisoners in the Gaol during the last Year was three, all Males. The total Number of Prisoners committed for three Years was as follows:—

Eye Gaol, Suffolk, p. 2230.

1830	7 Males	— Females.
1831	14 —	2 —
1832	14 —	— —

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

When there are both Male and Female Prisoners, the latter are taken into the Poor-house. The prison Diet is One Pound and a Half of Bread a Day, and Three Ounces or rather more of Cheese. The Gaoler stated that no Prisoner had been detained there longer than Three Months. The Magistrates and a Clergyman visit the Gaol occasionally, but very seldom The Prisoners are furnished with Bibles, Prayer Books, and other Religious Works, and the Gaoler said that their Conduct in general was orderly. Being only detained for Trial, they have no Employment, but a Tailor has been allowed to work at his Trade.

The Serjeants-at-Mace and the Gaoler are appointed yearly by the Bailiffs, and are removable by them for reasonable Cause.

The Gaoler has the Management of the Gaol, and receives a yearly Salary of 2*l.*

Godmanchester, Huntingdon, p. 2237.

There is no Gaol here, but a Cage is used to secure Persons charged with Offences till they can be taken before a Magistrate. The Prisoners are never detained in the Cage more than One Night, and they have sometimes (though but rarely) been discharged because a Magistrate could not be met with.

Grantham Gaol, Lincolnshire, p. 2244.

The same Prison serves for the double Purpose of a Gaol and a House of Correction for the whole Soke. It contains Six Day-rooms and Fourteen sleeping Cells; and the Classification of the Prisoners, as far as is practicable in a Prison of this Size, appears to be properly attended to. All Prisoners for Trial are allowed 6*d.* a Day each for Subsistence, convicted Prisoners 4*d.*, and Debtors 4*d.*; this last is a very recent Allowance. The convicted Prisoners work on a Tread-mill, and sometimes in Gardens, one of which is contained in every Yard of the Prison. The untried Prisoners often work voluntarily in these Gardens. Very few Female Prisoners are sent to this Gaol, and in the Year from October 1831 to October 1832 there was not one Female Prisoner in the Gaol. The Number of Prisoners was, from

	For Felony.	For Misdemeanors and Vagrants.	Debtors.	Total.
October 1831 to October 1832 - -	11	13	3	27
October 1832 to September 1833 -	11	20	2	33

The Health of the Prisoners appears to be good. They are attended by a medical Man, who receives a Salary of 10*l.* a Year. The Prisoners are furnished with Bibles and Prayer Books, but no Chaplain attends the Gaol, and no Religious Instruction is given to the Prisoners. Two Magistrates usually visit the Gaol once a Week. There is a good Inspection from the Houses of the Gaoler and Turnkey of all the Yards except that in which the Vagrants are confined. The Gaoler gave on the whole rather a favourable Account of the Conduct of the Prisoners, but he thought that they would be benefited by the Attendance of a Chaplain.

Great Grimsby Gaol, Lincolnshire, p. 2253.

The Gaol of this Borough consists of Four Cells and a Yard. The Dimensions of that for Male Criminals is Twelve Feet by Twelve Feet, that for Male Debtors Thirteen Feet by Eight Feet, and the Women's Room Ten Feet by Seven Feet. The Yard is Forty-two Feet by Fifteen Feet. It is used in turn by the Male and Female Prisoners, each for a certain Number of Hours. The Male Debtors and the Prisoners for Felony and Misdemeanor all go into the Yard together. Female Prisoners, whether Debtors or Criminals, untried or convicted, live constantly together. For a long Time past however not more than Two Women have been Inmates of the Gaol at the same Time. There is no Employment for any of the Prisoners. No Chaplain attends the Gaol, and the Prisoners have neither Bibles nor Prayer Books, nor do they receive any Kind of Religious Instruction. The Magistrates very seldom visit the Gaol, and the Gaoler expressed a Doubt whether they had done so once in the last Two Years. The mere Statement of these Facts seems to render all Comment superfluous. Complaints were made about Eight Years ago by a Prisoner to the Secretary of State of the Smallness of the Rooms and Yard, and the general State of the Prison, and a Return was called for by the Home Office, but nothing has been done towards improving it. The greatest Number of Prisoners in the Gaol at one Time in the Year 1832 was Five, and Eighteen the greatest Number committed in any of the Years 1830, 1831, 1832. Debtors sent by the Court of Requests are a great Majority of the Prisoners. The Plaintiffs allow them 4*d.* a Day for Subsistence, but the Borough pays nothing. The weekly Cost of the other Prisoners per Head is 3*s.* 2*d.* Confinement in this Gaol does not appear to be considered a Punishment.

Harwich Gaol, Essex, p. 2269.

The Borough Gaol contains Three Rooms and a single Yard.

The Number of Persons committed to this Gaol in the Years 1830, 1831, 1832, were Six, Twelve, and Twelve respectively. Of these not one was committed for Trial.

The Prisoners are allowed 3*s.* 6*d.* a Week, which is paid out of the Borough Rate. They are all unemployed, and there has been no Sickness.

This Gaol is occasionally used for the Dentention of Smugglers, and upon these Occasions

it

it is sometimes found inadequate for the Purpose. No less than Thirty Prisoners have been confined at the same Time, and for several Days.

The Gaoler is annually appointed by the Council.

He receives a Salary of 20*l.* a Year from the Corporation, and is provided with Fuel and a House Rent-free. He also receives 2*l.* 14*s.* a Year for taking care of the Town Hall, and 6*s.* 8*d.* on the Discharge of each Prisoner, which is paid from the Borough Rate.

The present Gaoler has held the Office for Eighteen Years.

Hedon Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1540.

There is a Room in the Town Hall appropriated to the Confinement of Criminals. This is rarely used, and then only as a Lock-up House.

The Corporation about Three Years ago entered into a Contract with the Magistrates for the East Riding of Yorkshire for the Confinement of Prisoners in the County Gaol. There has not been any Occasion to take advantage of this Contract, except for the Purpose of confining Vagrants. The Expenses of keeping Prisoners are paid out of a Borough Rate in the Nature of a County Rate.

Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, p. 2283.

There is no Gaol here, but merely a Lock-up House for the safe Custody of Prisoners till they can be taken to the County Gaol and House of Correction. The County Magistrates formerly disputed the Right of those of the Borough to commit Offenders to the County Prisons, but it is now admitted.

Huntingdon Gaol, p. 2289.

The Number of Prisoners in the Town Gaol never exceeds Three or Four, and at present there is only One. The Gaol contains Two Day-rooms and a solitary Cell. Another Room is used by the Female Prisoners both as a Day-room and a Sleeping-room. We found the Gaol clean and in good Order. The Prisoners of different Classes are in general kept separate, but this is not at all Times practicable from the Smallness of the Prison. There are seldom Prisoners here both for Trial and in execution. Those who are convicted before the Judges are sent to the County Gaol. There is no Chaplain, but a Clergyman has occasionally attended the Prisoners gratuitously. Till the building of a new County Gaol Four or Five Years ago the County and the Town Prisoners were kept in the same Prison, and the Chaplain of the County Gaol attended on both. The Magistrates occasionally visit the Gaol. The Mayor has been there Two or Three Times in the course of the last Year. There is no Employment for the Prisoners.

Ipswich Gaol, Suffolk, p. 2318.

The Borough Gaol, which is the Property of the Corporation, contains Six Day-rooms, sleeping Apartments, and Four Yards.

One of the Yards is appropriated to Females, another to Prisoners convicted, a Third to untried Felons, and a Fourth to Misdemeanants. The Classification of Offenders is very imperfect. There are now Twenty-nine Prisoners, including Eight Debtors. The greatest Number confined at any Time in the course of last Year was Forty-eight, among whom were Eighteen Smugglers.

The total Number of Commitments during the Three previous Years was, in

1830	-	-	-	74
1831	-	-	-	76
1832	-	-	-	97

The Number of Debtors confined during the same Three Years was Thirty four, Thirty-eight, and Thirty-two respectively.

No Employment is found for the Prisoners. Their Diet is a Pound and a Half of Bread daily, Three Quarters of a Pound of Cheese weekly, with Beer, Milk, and occasionally Potatoes. The weekly Cost of this Food is 2*s.* 2¼*d.* per Head. Clothes are also provided.

The Duties of Gaoler are performed by a Female, the Widow of the late Gaoler, who was Eight Years in the Office.

Her Salary is 80*l.* a Year, besides an Allowance of Coals; and this is paid, not by the Corporation, but out of the Marshalsea or Borough Rate.

She appoints Turnkeys, and pays them out of her Salary. From the Maintenance of Prisoners she derives no Profit.

The State of the Gaol will be reported under a distinct Head.

A Surgeon is appointed for the Gaol and Bridewell, with a Salary of 50*l.* a Year, which, like the Salaries of the Gaoler and Chaplain, is a Charge on the Marshalsea Rate. This Sum is paid as well for the Supply of Medicines as for medical Attendance.

The Surgeon last appointed is the Son of a Portman and Magistrate.

The State of the Prisoners will be reported under the Head of Gaol.

The Bridewell Keeper has a Salary of 20*l.* a Year, besides Coals and Apartments Rent-free.

A further Salary of 12*l.* a Year is allowed for keeping the Mendicity House; and this, like the others, is paid out of the Borough or Marshalsea Rate.

The same Individual is also the Guide of Christ's Hospital, an Institution under the Control of the Corporation.

A Part of the Hospital is used as the Bridewell, and the Guide lives on the Spot. He maintains the Boys as well as the Prisoners, and receives a weekly Pension for each Boy.

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

This Appointment has been frequently contested since 1820. The Numbers polled were as follows:

Year.	Majority.	Minority.	Year.	Majority.	Minority.
1820	247	231	1827	208	132
1821	291	198	1828	289	215
1822	229	225	1829	177	96
1826	338	240	1832	130	104

A Chaplain is appointed for the Gaol, who performs the Service on Sunday, and pays occasional Visits on other Days.

His Salary is 30*l.* a Year, which is paid out of the Marshalsea Rate.

Kidderminster Gaol, Worcester, p. 1878–9.

There is One Gaol belonging to the Corporation, which is used for the temporary Confinement of Prisoners previously to Commitment. It is of a very inferior Description, being situated under the Town Hall, and in point of fact nothing more than a Cellar, affording no Admission in a sufficient Degree either to Light or Air. There are no Beds in this Prison, neither can a Fire be lighted in it, whatever may be the Inclemency of the Season. It was stated in Evidence by One of the Night Constables, that having at Times had Occasion to be in the Prison with Persons in Custody, he had frequently, after staying in it an Hour, been quite unwell from Damp and Chill. As the Prison consists but of One Room, it is impossible to keep Prisoners separate from one another. The only Aperture through which Air is admitted is an Iron Grating, level with the Street, through the Bars of which Quills or Reeds may be inserted. By this Means Drink is frequently conveyed to the Prisoners, and it has sometimes happened that Persons confined during the Night have been found the next Morning so intoxicated as to be incapable of being examined by the Magistrates.

It has already been stated, that in consequence of the Unfitness of this Gaol as a Place of permanent Confinement the Magistrates invariably commit to the County Gaol. They also, as far as it can be done with Safety, cause Persons in Custody to be confined in other Apartments. Still it frequently occurs that Persons are confined in the Borough Gaol sometimes for Two or Three Days and Nights at a Time. A Reflection naturally suggests itself, whether a Prison admitted to be too bad for the Custody of convicted Criminals can be a fitting Place for a Confinement of which safe Keeping is the only legitimate Purpose, of which Punishment forms no Part, and to which even innocent Men may occasionally be subjected.

Kingston-upon-Hull Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1563.

The Common Prison for the County of the Town is the United Gaol and House of Correction.

It is included in the General Gaol Act, 6 Geo. 4. c. 64., and is built in conformity with the Regulations therein contained, so far as relates to the Classification of Prisoners. The old Gaol was built by a Rate on the County of the Town under the Authority of a Local Act of Parliament. The present Gaol was finished in May 1830. It is under the Charge of the Sheriff, subject to the Superintendence of the Magistrates. The Building has been paid for out of the County Rates for the Town. The Legality of the Rate for this Purpose being now a Subject of Litigation, the Town Clerk declined giving us any further Information on the Subject, which for that Reason we did not think it right to press. Prisoners for Debt are confined in the Gaol. Of these there are now Twenty-eight. The Expense of maintaining the Prisoners is paid out of the County Rate, so are the Officers' Salaries and the Repairs of the House of Correction. The Repairs of the Gaol have been paid for by the Corporation.

The following is a List of the Officers, and their Salaries:

1. The Governor, who acts in that Capacity both to the Gaol and House of Correction, being appointed to the former by the Sheriff, and to the latter by the Magistrates. He has an annual Salary of 220*l.* a Year. He has also a Proportion of the Prisoners Earnings at the Tread-mill, which amounts to about 26*l.* a Year. He has a Fee of 1*s.* for every Copy of a Commitment, and a small Profit for supplying Debtors with Feather Beds, Mattresses, and Chairs, at the Rate of 2*s.* a Week. This Indulgence is very seldom purchased. He gives Security to the Sheriff to the Extent of 3,000*l.* or 4,000*l.*

2. The Under Gaoler has an annual Salary of 55*l.*, and a Salary of 33*l.* a Year for acting as Chapel Clerk.

3. The Turnkey has a Salary of 40*l.* per Annum, and Three Guineas a Year for superintending the Lamps and Lights of the Gaol.

4. The Wives of the Two last-mentioned Officers act as Gate-keepers, for which they have an annual Salary of 8*l.* each.

5. The Matron has the Charge of the Female Prisoners. She is the Wife of the Governor. She has a Salary of 30*l.* a Year.

6. The Taskmaster superintends the Tread-mill. He has a Salary of 40*l.* a Year, and a Proportion of the Prisoners Earnings, amounting to Seven Guineas a Year.

7. The Chaplain has an annual Salary of 100*l.*

8. The Surgeon has an annual Salary of 60*l.*; this includes Medicines.

These Officers are appointed by the Magistrates at Sessions.

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There is a Gaol in the Borough, partly belonging to the Corporation and partly to the County. It is under the Jurisdiction of both County and Borough Magistrates. It is convenient, and admits of the proper Classifications being made. Kirkby-in-Kendal Gaol, Westmorland, p. 1593.

The Gaol is under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates. It did not appear to us to be very regularly visited. It is scanty, and not equal to the Necessities of the Place. The Civil Prisoners are confined in it, and so are Prisoners on criminal Charges till their final Commitment, after which they are kept in the County Gaol. If, however, the Interval between the first Hearing and the final Commitment be very long, the Magistrates usually remand the Prisoner for the meantime to the County Gaol. There are scarcely any Means of separating different Classes. Lancaster Borough Gaol, p. 1608.

The Borough Magistrates, as such, have no Jurisdiction over the County Gaol, except as above mentioned. It was proposed at one Time to give a Power to them to use the County Gaol for the Civil Prisoners of the Borough, but a Difficulty occurred as to the Details. The principal Question related to the Persons who were to give the Security for the Maintenance of the Prisoner. Lancaster County Gaol, p. 1608.

There is a Gaol and a House of Correction in the Borough. The Buildings are immediately contiguous. The Gaol has been recently rebuilt, and the House of Correction is likewise a modern Building. After the passing of the General Gaol Act (4 Geo. 4. c. 64.) the former Borough Gaol, which had been built in the Year 1791 at considerable Expense, was found incapable of being adapted to the Regulations prescribed by that Act. The Borough Magistrates accordingly determined on building a new Gaol; they purchased Land of the Corporation for the Purpose at a Cost of between 3,000*l.* and 4,000*l.* Before, however, they had begun to build, the Magistrates of the County having erected a new Gaol, the old County Gaol became vacant. This the Borough Magistrates purchased from the Magistrates of the County for the Sum of 5,000*l.* They then enlarged and rebuilt the old County Gaol, and built the new House of Correction at a further Cost of 8,000*l.* To meet this heavy Expenditure about 12,000*l.* has been raised on the Credit of the Rate; the Remainder was defrayed out of the current Borough Rate, and by Sale of Part of the Land bought of the Corporation. The Part thus sold fetched 1,200*l.*; the rest remains for Sale, and at present produces a Rent of only 6*l.* a Year. Leicester Gaol, p. 1898.

It unfortunately turns out that the Object for which this heavy Expense has been incurred has altogether failed. All Classification required by the Statute remains as impracticable in the present Gaol as in the former. We were informed by the Gaoler, that both in the Gaol and the House of Correction the only Classification which could be effected was the Separation of Women from Men, and Debtors from Felons, which Separation already existed in the old Gaol. It is impossible to separate Men from Boys, or the convicted from the untried. The latter Object is attempted to be accomplished as far as possible by confining Men under Sentence in the House of Correction only, reserving the Gaol for the untried and the Women. As regards the latter, no Classification whatsoever can take place. We were assured by the Gaoler that a considerable Enlargement and Alteration of the Gaol must take place before the proper Classification could be carried into effect.

The Gaol is besides inadequate in point of Space. It is calculated to contain Forty Prisoners; more are frequently confined in it, and it sometimes becomes necessary to confine in the treble Cells Two more Persons than they ought to contain. Several of the Cells are ill constructed and confined, and do not sufficiently admit of the Light and Air. The Debtors Ward is particularly inconvenient and confined.

The Prison Establishment consists of a Gaoler and a Turnkey and Matron for the Gaol, a Keeper of the House of Correction, and a Turnkey under him.

The Gaoler has a Salary of 250*l.* per Annum. The Salary of this Office in 1812 was 120*l.*; it was raised in 1817 to 150*l.* on the Occasion of the Abolition of the Fees previously taken by Gaolers, and again in 1824 to its present Amount, when the Magistrates, instead of paying a fixed Sum for the Removal of Transports, determined on paying only the actual Expenses.

The Keeper of the House of Correction, who is the Gaoler's Son, has a Salary of 120*l.* a Year, and a Residence. The Turnkey of the Gaol has a Salary of 55*l.* a Year; the Turnkey of the House of Correction one of 52*l.* a Year; the Matron has 20*l.* a Year. A Chaplain is also appointed to the Gaol, with a Salary of 60*l.* a Year.

The Gaol is not regularly visited. No Visiting Magistrates are appointed, all being considered liable to this Duty. The Magistrates seldom visit the Gaol, unless the Gaoler or Keeper of the House of Correction reports the Necessity of their Presence, or Repairs are supposed to be required. No regular Visitation takes place at the Quarter Sessions.

It is however due to the Officers of this Establishment to say, that, as far as the inadequate Nature of the Buildings would allow, it appeared to be well regulated, and conducted with every Regard to Health, Cleanliness, and Order.

It has been determined by the Court of King's Bench that the Borough Magistrates have a Right to commit Prisoners to the County Gaol for Offences committed within the Liberties, and to cause such Prisoners to be brought before them for Trial at the Borough Sessions. Since this Decision, which took place in 1826, the Practice of the Borough Magistrates has been to commit all Offenders from the Liberties to the County Gaol.

Leeds Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1623.

The Gaol is under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates. It is occasionally visited by the Magistrates, but the Justices in Sessions do not appoint Visiting Magistrates. It has been considerably enlarged during the Summer of 1833; it was before very inadequate to the Accommodation of the Persons confined in it. It is, however, only designed for the Detention of Prisoners till their final Commitment, when they are sent to the House of Correction at Wakefield, and brought back to Leeds for Trial at the Sessions. On Conviction and Sentence to Imprisonment, or Imprisonment and Hard Labour, they return to Wakefield. Sometimes Prisoners on criminal Charges remain as long as a Fortnight, waiting for Evidence, before their final Commitment. When they return from Wakefield to take their Trial they are seldom more than Three or at the most Four Days; during these Times the Persons accused of various Offences associate promiscuously, and there are no Means of separating Boys from old and hardened Offenders.

The Magistrates have perceived the Evil, and avoid as much as possible committing Boys to Prison.

The Prisoners are alike supported out of the County Rate during their Stay in the Gaol at Leeds, and while confined in the House of Correction at Wakefield.

The Borough Justices appoint the Gaoler. He has a Salary of 50*l.* paid out of the County Rate, and certain Advantages in being permitted to take Money for the Care and cleaning of the Court-house when used by Commissioners of Bankrupt, and for other public Purposes.

Lichfield Gaol, Staffordshire, p. 1928.

There is a City Gaol and House of Correction; both are well built and airy, and admit of Classification.

Lincoln Gaol, p. 2356.

The City Gaol contains Seven Day-rooms and Ten sleeping Cells.

Its Divisions do not admit of a proper Classification of the Prisoners. Females are put together, whatever may be the Cause of their Imprisonment. The separation of Males appears to be considered more important.

The following is the Number of Prisoners confined during the Years 1830–1, 1831–2, 1832–3.

		Debtors.	Felons.	Misdemeanants.	Total.
Years	1830–1 -	11	36	53	100
	1831–2 -	13	17	203	233
	1832–3 -	18	31	152	201

Some of them work on a Tread-wheel. In the Opinion of the Gaoler the Work is not severe, but beneficial to the Health of the Prisoners.

The Allowance for Diet is 4*d.* a Day to those who do not work, and 6*d.* to those employed on the Wheel. Out of this Allowance the Gaoler states that some of the Prisoners are enabled to save Money.

The Religious Instruction which they receive from the Chaplain is confined in general to Divine Service on the Sunday. He does not attend at any other Time unless specially requested to do so.

In consequence of some Alterations which had been going on previously to our Visit to the City the Magistrates and Sheriffs had been frequently at the Gaol, but the Gaoler stated that in general the Magistrates only came about once in Two Months. The Prisoners, he said, were very seldom improved in Character by their Confinement in the Gaol; that they very often became worse, and that the longer they remained the worse they became. He imputed this Effect to their Conversation with each other, and thought that if they could be kept separate, except when at work, and then not allowed to speak to each other, it would tend to improve their Characters. Prisoners, he said, were often recommitted.

The Gaol Chaplain performs Service in the Gaol every Sunday.

Office for Life, subject to Removal by the Magistrates.

Salary, 25*l.* a Year.

The Turnkey of the Gaol holds his Appointment during the Pleasure of the Magistrates, and his Salary is 30*l.* a Year.

The Gaoler and the Sheriff's Officers are appointed by the Sheriffs.

The Gaoler is also Keeper of the House of Correction.

Appointment during the Shrievalty, subject to Removal by the Sheriff.

Salary, 80*l.* a Year.

Liverpool Gaol, Lancashire, p. 2723.

The Governor of the Borough Gaol is appointed by the Council, with a Salary of 350*l.* a year, and a House in the Gaol. He has under him Four Turnkeys and a Watchman, similarly appointed.

The Two senior Turnkeys have Salaries of 70*l.* 4*s.* each, the other Two of 68*l.* 4*s.*; the Watchman has a Salary of 52*l.*

The Governor is not a Freeman of the Borough; of his Five Assistants, only One is a Freeman. And it may here be observed generally, that in their Appointment of subordi-

nate Officers the Common Council do not appear to have been influenced by any Partiality for those free of the Corporation.

Upon the Appointment of a new Chaplain to this Establishment, a Reduction of the Stipend has been effected from 150 to 100 Guineas per Annum.

" Repairs of Borough Gaol, 352*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*"

Louth, Lincolnshire, p. 2377.

The Corporation have no Gaol; but the Magistrates commit to the County Gaol and House of Correction of the Division, which is within the Town. Louth contributes its Share to the County Rate. The present Warden is a Justice of the Peace for the Parts of Lindsey, and as such is a Visiting Magistrate of the Prison.

Ludlow Gaol, Salop, p. 2793.

The Borough Gaol is the Property of the Corporation, and was built by them in 1764.

One of the Serjeants-at-Mace is the Governor, and resides in a House communicating with it.

There are separate Cells for different Classes of Prisoners, and distinct Apartments for the Debtors, of whom however there had not been One for the last Two Years.

One Vagrant was the sole Occupier of the Gaol during the Municipal Inquiry.

The Borough Magistrates superintend the Management of the Gaol, and occasionally visit it.

There is a Workhouse belonging to the Parish of Saint Laurence, Ludlow, endowed with the annual Sum of 20*l.* paid out of the Revenue of a Charity known by the Name of " Lane's Benefaction."

Questions have been raised as to the partial Application thereof to the Purposes of a House of Correction. But as the whole Matter has been under Inquiry before the Commissioners of Charities [see Report iii. p. 292], it is deemed inexpedient here to do more than refer to their Report.

Lynn Gaol, Norfolk, p. 2405.

The Borough Gaol contains Four Day-rooms, Eighteen sleeping Cells, and Four Yards.

The total Number of Persons committed during the Three Years 1830, 1831, and 1832, was as follows:—

1830	154
1831	117
1832	122

Of those the Number committed for Trial were—

1830	11 Males	2 Females
1831	11 —	1 —
1832	7 —	4 —

Distinguishing the Commitments for Felony and Misdemeanors—

1830	For Felony 12	For Misdemeanors	1
1831	— 9	—	3
1832	— 10	—	1

The Number of Debtors confined during the same Period were—

1830	20
1831	20
1832	25

The Number of Vagrants—

1830	27
1831	17
1832	22

The Gaoler's Books do not enable us to distinguish the Males from the Females, except in the Cases stated.

During the last Year the greatest Number confined at the same Time was Eighteen. There were no Recommittals.

Since 30th December 1832 Eleven have been returned as sick, but no Deaths have occurred. The Prisoners are all unemployed, and the weekly Cost of their Food is 4*s.* 1*d.* per Head.

The Prison seems to be, on the whole, well regulated, and the Classification of the Prisoners to be in most Instances as perfect as the Size of the Gaol will allow. In one Instance, however, a respectable Woman having a large Family was confined for Debt in the same Room with other Female Prisoners who were committed for disorderly Conduct.

The Diet is One Pound and a Half of the best Bread a Day, and Half a Pound of Cheese. Occasionally it is changed, and a small Quantity of Pork is allowed. They have no Allowance of Beer, but are permitted to receive it from their Friends.

A Chaplain performs Service on Sunday, but does not attend at other Times, unless a Prisoner is to be removed. Bibles and Prayer Books are provided.

The Magistrates sometimes, but not very frequently, visit the Gaol. The present Mayor has done so about once in Two or Three Weeks since he has been in Office.

In general the Prisoners have been healthy, and the Gaoler makes no Complaint of their Conduct.

The Gaoler and Keeper of the House of Correction is appointed for Life, subject to the same Removal.

His Salary is 100*l.* a Year.

No Fees are paid by the Prisoners.

He is also the Hall-keeper, and derives some trifling Emoluments from this Office when the Town Hall is used for Purposes unconnected with the Affairs of the Corporation.

Maldon Gaol, Essex, p. 2447.

The Borough Gaol contains only Two Apartments, without any Separation of Cells, and these Two Rooms are used for Offenders of all Classes, including Vagrants. There is nothing like Classification.

The Number of Commitments for Crime during the last Three Years has been as follows:

1831	7
1832	7
1833	16

Commitments for Trial:

1831	4
1832	5
1833	10

One of the last 10 was a Female. All, except One, were charged with Felony; and all but Three were afterwards convicted.

Number of Vagrants confined in the same Three Years:

1831	4
1832	6
1833	3

During the last Year there have been no Recommitments.

The greatest Number of Persons confined at One Time within the Year was Five.

The longest Imprisonment since 1810 was for Twelve Months; the longest during the last Year was for Three Months. The Prisoners are all unemployed.

Of the Sixteen committed in 1833 Three have been returned as sick.

The daily Allowance to each is One Pound and a Half of Bread and a Quart of Beer, and once a Week they are allowed a Pound of Meat. This is provided by the Gaoler, whose Charges for Maintenance vary from 5*s.* 3*d.* to 7*s.* a Week for each Prisoner. He also charges for their Custody. For the Care of One it is 3*s.* a Week, and for the Care of Two he charges 5*s.*

These Expenses are paid by the Parishes.

This Gaol is visited by the Borough Magistrates at irregular Intervals, but usually Once a Fortnight, and the longest Interval has been Three Weeks.

The County Gaol is used when Prisoners are sentenced to Hard Labour. Last Year Five Prisoners were sent there after Conviction.

The Gaoler is a Blacksmith, who has been re-appointed since 1812.

Qualification, the Franchise.

He maintains the Prisoners, and charges as well for their Care as for their Maintenance, the Charge varying with the Number.

His Bill for Seven Years, from 1812 to 1819, amounting to 74*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, still remains unpaid. It has been frequently before the Council, and its Accuracy is not disputed, but they state that they cannot afford to pay it. Since 1819 he has been paid out of the Poor Rates.

Morpeth, Northumberland, p. 1630.

There is no Borough Gaol. The County Gaol and House of Correction are locally situate within the Town.

Newark Gaol, Nottinghamshire, p. 1938.

There is One Borough Gaol, but of a very indifferent Description, ill constructed, and insufficient in point of Size. It is not used as a Place of permanent Confinement for Criminals, but merely for the Purpose of temporary Custody previous to Commitment. The Magistrates are authorized by the Charter to commit to the County Gaol, and, in practice, always avail themselves of this Power. But it unfortunately happens that the Borough Gaol is the only Place in which Persons taken under Process from the Court of Record can be confined. A Debtor was lately imprisoned there for a considerable Time, till released by the Operation of the Insolvent Debtors Act. This is a serious Evil, and one which calls loudly for Amendment; for it thus happens that Persons in Custody upon Civil Process are incarcerated in a Prison which is deemed too bad even for the Abode of Felons and other criminal Offenders.

The Corporation also appoint a Gaoler during Pleasure. He receives a Salary of 20*l.* a Year, together with Three Guineas as Clerk of the Market, and One Guinea and a Half for taking care of the Weights.

Newborough, Anglesea, p. 2810.

A Lock-up, called the Hain House, was formerly used as a Place of temporary Confinement for Prisoners; but it is Fifteen Years since any one has been there incarcerated, and the Place is now appropriated by one John Jones, a Grocer, as a Warehouse for his Goods, and claimed as his private Property.

Newcastle-under-Lyme Gaols, Staffordshire, p. 1955.

There are Two Gaols, one for Criminals, the other for Debtors belonging to the Borough. The Felons Prison is a small and inconvenient Prison attached to the Parish Workhouse.

It

605

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

It consists of Four very small Rooms; the Windows are not glazed, and there are no Fire-places or Means of warming the Building. There is no Yard for Exercise. Classification is altogether out of the Question, and the Gaol is moreover so insecure that when Prisoners are confined in it Constables must be placed outside to prevent their Escape. Several Instances have occurred of Prisoners breaking out of the Roof.

This Prison is only used for the Purpose of temporary Confinement prior to Committal. The Borough Magistrates commit all Prisoners both before and after Trial to the County Gaol.

The Debtors Prison is likewise attached to the Workhouse, the Master of which acts as Gaoler. This Prison is of a rather better Description than the former. It consists of Two Rooms, one within the other, with Fire-places and glazed Windows and a Yard for Exercise.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Gaols. Northumberland, p. 1650.

There is a Gaol and House of Correction. They are both inclosed within one outer Wall. They are under the Jurisdiction of the Magistrates, a certain Number of whom are appointed to visit them. The Expenses of building the Gaol were defrayed by a Rate imposed by a Local Act of Parliament. The building cost 30,000*l.* The Expenses of the Gaol and of supporting the Prisoners are defrayed out of the County Rate, levied on all the Inhabitants, Freemen and Non-freemen. The Amount of this Rate is about 3,700*l.* a Year. These Prisons are large and commodious, and admit of all the requisite Classifications.

Newport Gaol, Salop, p. 1962.

There are no Courts, Criminal or Civil. The only Gaol consists of a Lock-up House, in which Prisoners are confined prior to Commitment to the County Gaol.

Northampton Gaols, p. 1971.

The Corporation have a Debtors Gaol, a Criminal Gaol, and a House of Correction, all adjoining each other: the whole is under the Management of One Gaoler, who is appointed by the Magistrates in Quarter Sessions; he has a Salary of 60*l.* a Year, and a Residence within the Gaol. There are no Turnkeys or inferior Officers, with the Exception of a Person employed as an Assistant in locking up and unlocking, who receives about 1*s.* 6*d.* a Week. A Gaol Surgeon and Chaplain are appointed with a Salary of Twelve Guineas a Year each.

Norwich Gaol, p. 2469 & 2479.

The Gaol contains Eight Yards, Eight Day-rooms, and Sixty-nine sleeping Cells. The greatest Number of Prisoners in the Gaol at One Time in the Year 1832 was Fifty. The total Number of Persons committed in the following Years was—

1830	300
1831	294
1832	307

Sixteen were recommitted in the last Year; there were Thirty-one Cases of Sickness out of 307 Prisoners, but no Death. The weekly Cost of the Food of each Prisoner is about 2*s.* 6*d.* The Number of Prisoners committed for Trial and of Debtors for the same Three Years was—

		1830.	1831.	1832.
For Trial	Males	71	60	59
	Females	14	11	12
	Total	85	71	71

		1830.	1831.	1832.
Debtors	Males	178	196	213
	Females	1	3	4
	Total	179	199	217*

* These Numbers are taken from a Return made to us by the Gaoler at Norwich. We add another Account, which has been sent since by the Town Clerk. There is only a Difference of Four in the Sum Total of Prisoners for the Three Years.

		1830.	1831.	1832.
For Trial	Males	65	75	53
	Females	12	15	11
	Total	77	90	64

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

The House of Correction, which forms Part of the same Prison, contains Six Yards, Six Day-rooms, and Forty-five sleeping Cells. The greatest Number of Prisoners at One Time in 1832 was Forty-nine. The Number committed in the following Years was—

In 1830 - -	938 of whom	90 were sentenced to hard Labour.
1831 - -	653 - -	131	—
1832 - -	602 - -	89	—

There were Eighty-one Cases of Sickness in 1832, but no Deaths.

The Sheriffs (who declined giving Evidence before us themselves) ordered the Gaoler to refuse to be examined concerning the Gaol. He had, however, previously furnished us with the Gaol Return; and although he felt himself bound to obey the Commands of the Sheriffs as to the Gaol, he very willingly imparted to us all the Information we required respecting the House of Correction, over which the Sheriffs have no control, and to which he thought their Injunction of Silence could not apply. The Mayor and one of the Aldermen accompanied us over the Gaol and House of Correction.

The Mayor, Recorder, and Four other Justices are the Visiting Magistrates of the Prison. They hold a Meeting at the Gaol regularly every Month, see each Prisoner singly, and attend to all Complaints. They go to the Gaol occasionally at other Times. The Gaoler keeps a Book for the Inspection of the Visiting Magistrates, and makes a Report at every Meeting. Books are also kept by the Chaplain and Surgeon, and examined by the Magistrates. The most frequent Commitments are for Quarrels in Public Houses. A Visiting Justice said, that he thought Crime was rather diminishing. The same Gentleman observed, that while Norwich, with a Population of 60,000, had in its Gaol and House of Correction Fifty-one Prisoners, the Gaol of Manchester, the Population of which Town is Four Times as large as that of Norwich, during the same Period, contained 471 Prisoners, being more than Nine Times the Number. The Chaplain performs Divine Service twice a Day on Sundays, attends every Friday Morning to see the Prisoners who have been committed during the Week, and frequently on other Occasions. The Reverend Gentleman appears to perform his Duty in an exemplary Manner. He thinks it very desirable that Conversation between the Prisoners should be as much as possible restrained, as it in a very great Degree prevents them from being benefited by his Instructions.

The Gaoler receives 100*l.* a Year as Gaoler and Keeper of the House of Correction, and about 100*l.* a Year Fees. The Salary of the Matron of the Gaol is 25*l.* a Year, the Surgeon's 50*l.*, and the Chaplain's 100*l.*

Expense of building the new Gaol, &c. p. 2479.

The heaviest Items in the Expenditure of this Year consisted of Sums paid to liquidate a Debt incurred for the Purpose of building a new Gaol and House of Correction. The Corporation, on the 24th of February 1823, leased a Piece of Land to the Justices for 500 Years at the yearly Rent of 50*l.*; 20,000*l.* were borrowed of Government, and 5,000*l.* of the Joint Stock Banking Company. The Gaol was built by Contract for 22,724*l.* 13*s.*, and additional Charges on account of the Gaol have amounted to 2,227*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* Part of the Debt to the Bank has been paid, and 9,500*l.* have been repaid to Government. Two Instalments of 500*l.* were paid to Government in the last Year, amounting, with Interest, to 1,470*l.* Two Instalments of 250*l.* each, amounting, with Interest, to 639*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, were paid to the Joint Stock Bank. The Expenses of the Gaol for the Year were 911*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* (including the whole Rent for both Gaol and House of Correction, which form one Building); those of the House of Correction, 453*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* The other principal Items of Expenditure were, Assize Expenses, Prosecutions, &c., 388*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; Clerk of the Peace's Bill, 477*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*; Expenses of Coroner's Inquests, 86*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*; Constables and Patrole, 850*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*; conveying Convicts for Transportation, 143*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*; Printing and Stationery, 123*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; Sessions Prosecutions, 103*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*; Repairs and Alterations of Sessions Court, 91*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*; the Sword Bearer's Bill, 166*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* The other Expenses are, Salaries, Repairs of the Hall, some Police Expenses, billetting of Soldiers, and conveying of Baggage, &c. There is a Charge of 13*l.* 4*s.* paid to Pensioners, who are old Soldiers. We are not aware of any Law empowering the Magistrates to lay such a Charge as this on the County Rate. For the last Four Years there has been a Balance in the Hands of the County Treasurer of about 600*l.* The Treasurer has the Advantage of the Interest paid by the Bankers on Balances in their Hands. Allowing this large Sum to remain with the Treasurer seems to us unnecessary and improper. The Chief Constable, who collects the County Rate, does not always pay it over immediately to the Treasurer, but sometimes retains a large Sum in his Hands. A late Chief Constable had at the Time of his Death the Sum of 700*l.* in his Possession, which ought to have been paid over to the Treasurer. We cannot discover any Reason why the Chief Constable should not pay over the Rate to the Treasurer at the first convenient Season after he has collected it. Both the Treasurer and Chief Constable give Security, with Sureties, to the Amount of 1,000*l.* each. Some Time ago Cloth was supplied for the Prisoners by an Alderman who was a Magistrate; and afterwards, on an Objection having been made to a Magistrate selling Goods for the Prisoners, other Goods were furnished by the Son of the Alderman, who was not in Business on his own Account, but merely employed in assisting his Father. This objectionable Proceeding was at last put an end to by an Order of the Magistrates, that neither the Father nor the Son should supply any Goods for the Gaol.

Nottingham Gaols, p. 1995.

The Prisons under the Control of the Corporate Authorities are Two, the Gaol and the House of Correction.

Each

Each of these Prisons has a separate Establishment, which is as follows:— No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

The Gaol.	£	s.	d.
A Gaoler, who has a Salary of - - - -	200	0	0
Turnkey - - - - - -	50	0	0
Chaplain - - - - - -	60	0	0
Apothecary - - - - - -	42	0	0
Matron - - - - - -	10	0	0
The House of Correction.			
A Governor (including Allowance for Fees) - -	175	0	0
Turnkey and Overlooker of the Tread-wheel - -	117	0	0
Chaplain - - - - -	60	0	0
Apothecary - - - - -	42	0	0
Matron - - - - -	30	0	0

The House of Correction was rebuilt and enlarged nearly Twenty Years ago. In the Year 1820, after the passing of the recent Gaol Act, the Magistrates resolved on building a new Gaol, and towards this Object they raised 3,350*l.* on the County Rate. With this Sum they proceeded to build the outward Walls and Part of the Foundation. Having proceeded so far they took the Matter again into their Consideration, and eventually desisted from going on with the Work. The Reason assigned for abandoning the Undertaking after so large a Sum had been expended on it was, that it was found that the Pressure on the County Rate would be so severe that the Magistrates felt they should not be warranted in laying so heavy a Weight upon the Town. It is also stated, that at the Time the Money was borrowed the Magistrates considered it imperative upon them to construct a new Gaol, and set about it as a Matter of Necessity. Having afterwards discovered that Classification had not been rigidly enforced anywhere, the general Relaxation in other Places caused the Expense to be reconsidered, and the Undertaking to be given up. No Part of the new Gaol except the outer Walls and the Foundation are built; and the only Use to which the Place is now put is, that it is occasionally used, with some temporary Additions, as Barracks for Infantry. For this, however, nothing is paid by Government. The Course pursued by the Magistrates on desisting from building a new Gaol was, by gradual Additions to enlarge the Wards of the House of Correction. In this Establishment Classification is effected, and all Prisoners after Conviction are sent thither.

The Borough Gaol is occasionally used, but Commitments for any serious Offences are made to the Gaol of the County. Orford Gaol, Suffolk, p. 2509.

The Borough Gaol was erected in 1825 at an Expense of about 300*l.*, partly defrayed by the County, on the Condition of their having the Use of it as a Lock-up House whenever Occasion might require, but principally by the Town. Oswestry Gaol, Salop, p. 2830.

The Corporation did not bear any Part of the Cost of its Erection.

Previously to the Construction of this Gaol the only Place for the occasional Confinement of Prisoners consisted of some Cells under the Town Clerk's Office, exceedingly damp, but which have been appropriated by the Yeomanry above mentioned as a Depôt for their Gunpowder.

The present Gaol is visited by the Borough Justices; it is ordinarily used as a Place of Confinement for Infant Prisoners only, others being sent to Shrewsbury.

There are Two separate Wards, but seldom used for more than One Class. Instances have formerly occurred of Confinement of Prisoners for Debt there for Twelve Months, but none recently.

The Lock-up House belongs to the County. Overton Gaol, Flintshire, p. 2820.

There is a Gaol in the Borough, which is very small. Pontefract Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1678.

There is no Yard, and it will not admit of the necessary Separation of Prisoners, even before Trial.

It is, however, only used for Criminals as a Lock-up House, Prisoners being very rarely kept there for more than a Day; they are then sent to Wakefield for Confinement, brought back to Pontefract for Trial, and finally sent back to Wakefield when convicted and sentenced to Imprisonment.

There are Two Rooms used for the Confinement of Debtors.

There is no Gaol for the Borough; it is rendered unnecessary by the Circumstance of the County House of Correction being situate within the Limits of the Borough, which the Corporation use for their Debtors. Preston, Lancashire, p. 1092.

The Gaol is under the Superintendence of the County Magistrates.

It it also, in fact, visited by the Borough Magistrates.

The Corporation, for the Care of their Prisoners, pay the Gaoler 25*l.*

The Gaol is modern and convenient.

The Part of it used by the Corporation is distinct from the other Part, and the Debtors are kept separate from the other Prisoners, except when they have Occasion to be sent to the Hospital.

No. 1. Extracts from Appendix to Report on Municipal Corporations.

There is another Exception to this Rule in the Case of Female Debtors. As there is no Instance of there being Two Female Debtors confined at the same Time, in order to prevent the Confinement from being solitary, the single Prisoner for Debt is confined with the Females committed for Misdemeanors.

There is but One Instance of a Female being confined for Debt within Time of Recollection.

The Number of Prisoners for Debt varies from Six to Twenty.

There is a very commodious Lock-up House, built by the Commissioners under the Local Watching Act, for the temporary Confinement of Offenders, having separate Apartments and Conveniences for both Sexes, with necessary Offices.

Richmond Gaol, Yorkshire, p. 1703.

The Gaol is under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates. It is Part of the same Building as the Workhouse. The Master of the Workhouse is Master of the Gaol. Persons are confined here for Debt, also on Commitment for safe Custody previous to Trial; and in Cases where Criminals are sentenced to Imprisonment simply they are also confined here, but in Cases where other Punishment is added to Imprisonment they are sent to the House of Correction at North Allerton, under a Contract for that Purpose with the Magistrates of the County. This Contract has just expired, but it is probable it will be renewed. Few Persons are confined in the Gaol in the Borough for Debt. The Gaol, however, is inconvenient even for the Purposes to which it has been applied; there is no convenient Yard, there are but few Rooms, and the only Classification it admits of is Separation of Men and Women, Criminals and Debtors. At certain Times of the Year it is scarcely fit for the Reception of Prisoners of any Sort.

Rhuddlan Gaol, Flintshire, p. 2841.

A Lock-up House, built at the Expense of the County about Eight Years ago, is the only Place of Confinement for Offenders now within the Borough.

Of the Criminal Jurisdiction granted by Edward I. to the Burgesses nothing at the present Day is remaining.

Ruthin Gaol, Denbighshire, p. 2851.

The only Place of Confinement for Prisoners belonging to the Corporation of Ruthin is an ancient Gaol, now occupied by the Crier as his Dwelling House; the last Person confined in it was a Prisoner for Debt about Forty Years ago.

The County Gaol, which is in Ruthin, supersedes the Necessity for any Borough Gaol; it is visited exclusively by the County Justices; the Aldermen in their Corporate Capacity take no Part in its Superintendence.

The Rev. Francis Owen, one of the present Aldermen, has been Eight Years Chaplain of the Gaol, and takes an active Part in its proper Regulation. It is exceedingly cleanly, healthful, and well governed; Water of excellent Quality is supplied for the Use of the Gaol from Pumps worked by means of the Tread-mill, which has an Index contrived for showing, as well to those without the Walls of the Prison as within, the Continuance and Rate of the Work performed on the Tread-mill. Divine Service in the Gaol is performed either in English or Welsh, according to the Language more familiar to the Prisoners who happen to be in Confinement, but generally in English, the Majority coming from the Wrexham District.

From a Case drawn about the Year 1678 it appears that at that Time the Aldermen were represented as having "ever had a Gaol of their own, and frequently committed Offenders for the Breach of the Peace, and did and do release them, or do bind them to the Peace, and they and no others nominate and swear their own Constables."

Ruyton Gaol, Salop, p. 2859.

There is a Lock-up House in the Borough, the upper Part of which is let as a Saddler's Shop. Formerly the Bailiff of the Manor used to receive the Rent of the Shop, although no Repairs have been done to it at the Expense either of the present Lord (Earl of Powis) or the late (Lord Craven).

About Twenty Years ago, the Lock-up being in a very dilapidated State, the Burgesses raised a Sum by Subscription among themselves for its Repair, and have since been allowed to receive the Rent of the Saddler's Shop (1*l.*), nominally however only, for none has actually been paid.

The Lock-up answers all the Purpose here required for Confinement of Prisoners.

Scarborough Gaols, Yorkshire, p. 1721.

There is a Borough Gaol belonging to the Corporation; there is also a House of Correction within the Borough. Both are under the Superintendence of the Borough Magistrates. They are visited occasionally, but not regularly. The Gaol is very much out of repair, and very inconvenient. It does not admit of proper Classification, and there is no Place for the Prisoners to walk in. The Number of Prisoners is very small.

The House of Correction is also in a bad State of Repair, and is very inconvenient. It contains only Three Rooms. Prisoners sentenced to Hard Labour are sent to the House of Correction at North Allerton, under a Contract with the County Magistrates; the Expense of maintaining them is paid out of the Poor Rate.

Shrewsbury Gaols, p. 2018.

The Corporate Magistrates are entitled, under the Act for building the County Gaol, to send Prisoners, both Criminal and Civil, to the County Gaol. This Gaol is well built, and admits of the Classification required by Act of Parliament. The Corporation pay for the

Maintenance of their own Prisoners, but contribute nothing towards the general Expenses of the Gaol. The acting Magistrates for the Borough visit the Gaol, as far as their own Prisoners are concerned.

The Town Gaol contains One Yard about Twenty-eight Feet by Twenty Feet, One Day-room about Twelve Feet square, and Two sleeping Rooms or Cells. Southwold Gaol, Suffolk, p. 2518.

The Number of Prisoners committed during the last Three Years have been as follows:

1831	2
1832	7
1833	9

The Prisoners have neither Employment nor a fixed Allowance.

The Gaoler is appointed by the Bailiffs from the Commonalty, and holds his Office during their Pleasure.

His Salary is 6*l.* 6*s.* a Year.

There is no Borough Gaol. Previously to Commitment Prisoners are confined in a Place of Confinement under the Town Hall. It was stated that Persons were never kept there more than Twenty-four Hours. Stafford, p. 2027

The Gaol contains Three Yards, Three Day-rooms, and Twelve sleeping Cells; consequently, when there are Women in the Gaol, Two Divisions only can be made of the Male Prisoners. Women, however, are seldom sent there. The largest Number of Prisoners of late Years has been Sixteen. Stamford Gaol, p. 2532.

The Magistrates occasionally visit the Gaol, but not frequently. Of late their Visits have been more frequent. Some Clergymen attended the Prison for a few Months, but their Attendance is now discontinued, and the Prisoners are without Religious Instruction. A Bible and Prayer Book have been placed in each of the Day-rooms, but the Prisoners have destroyed most of them.

Their Allowance is 4*d.* a Day, and they find their own Diet. The Allowance was formerly 6*d.* and was reduced to 4*d.*, as it was discovered that they had saved Money.

The Gaoler has an Inspection of Two of the Yards from his House. Prisoners in the different Yards can converse with each other, and have no Kind of Employment. The Effects of such a wretched System of Management may be easily anticipated. "The Prisoners," said the Gaoler, "scratch the Walls, cut the Tables, and do all Manner of Mischief. I believe a Man generally comes out of a Gaol a worse Man than he goes in."

The Gaoler is annually appointed, and is removable by the Governing Body.

He receives a Salary of 4*l.* a Year from the Corporation, and 70*l.* from the Borough Stock, with a House Rent-free.

The Keeper of the House of Correction is annually appointed, and is removable by the Governing Body.

His Salary is 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* a Year.

There is no Gaol in the Borough, merely a Lock-up House. Stockton, Durham, p. 1730.

There is a Gaol, but of an inferior Description; it is used only as a Lock-up House prior to Commitments. Sutton Coldfield Gaol, Warwickshire, p. 2034.

There is a Gaol in the Borough, but of a very inferior Description. It is used only as a Place of Confinement prior to Commitment, Prisoners committed for Trial being always sent to the County Gaol. It would be wholly unfit for the Purpose of protracted Imprisonment, and can hardly be said to be a fit Place even for the temporary Confinement of Persons detained, not for the Purpose of Punishment, but of safe Custody alone. It is in fact a mere Dungeon, being situated under the Town Hall. It consists of a single Room, with Excavations in the Wall, in which the Prisoners sleep. There is no sufficient Admission of Light or Air, nor any Yard or Place in which the Prisoners may take Exercise. Tamworth Gaol, Staffordshire, p. 2040.

The Gaol is a large but ill-contrived Building. In contains only One Yard. Two Rooms are occasionally used as Day-rooms. There are Eight Sleeping-rooms. The Number of Prisoners, when we visited the Gaol, was Three Males and One Female. The Men were all regularly employed on a Tread-wheel erected in the Gaol; the Woman was confined Day and Night alone in the same Room, but was allowed occasionally to walk in the Yard. The accidental Circumstance of her being the only Female Prisoner rendered her Punishment much more severe than the Magistrate who sentenced her probably anticipated, as solitary Confinement formed no Part of her Sentence. The Gaol was clean, and appeared to be well kept; but there is no Chaplain, and the Prisoners have no Religious Instruction. They are, however, allowed Bibles and Prayer Books. The Magistrates do not in general visit the Gaol, but the present Mayor has frequently done so. The greatest Number of Prisoners in the Gaol at One Time in the last Year was Eight. The Numbers committed were— Thetford Gaol, Norfolk, p. 2544

In 1830	21	Committed for Trial	6	Convicted	6
1831	21	—	9	—	8
1832	35	—	3	—	2

Number recommitted in the Year, Eleven.

Each Prisoner finds his own Maintenance, for which Purpose he is allowed 2*s.* 4*d.* a Week.

Walsall Gaol, Staffordshire, 2047.

The Borough Gaol is situated under the Town Hall, below the Level of the Street. It consists of Six Cells, inclosing a small Yard of very insufficient Dimensions. This Establishment is altogether of an unsatisfactory Character; no Classification beyond the Separation of Men from Women can be effected, neither is it possible to separate Prisoners committed for Trial from those under Sentence after Conviction. There is not sufficient Space for Air or necessary Exercise. There are Three Fire-places in the Gaol, but the Cells are frequently very damp, so much so that the Moisture trickles down the Walls. The Prison Allowance is limited to Bread and Water. The Magistrates do not visit the Gaol regularly; sometimes an Interval of Six Months, or even more, is suffered to elapse without any Visitation being made. It was stated by the Gaoler, that he had never known the Magistrates to visit the Gaol during the Winter Months.

The Mayor has the Custody of the Gaol. He appoints a Deputy Gaoler, usually one of the Serjeants-at-Mace, who receives as such a Salary of 12*l.* 10*s.* a Year.

Warwick Gaol, p. 2061.

The Corporation have no Gaol. They commit all Prisoners, both on Civil and Criminal Process, to the Gaol of the County.

Wenlock Gaol, Salop, p. 2078.

There is One Gaol within the Borough. It is, however, only used as a Place of Detention for Prisoners prior to Commitment. It consists of One Room only, and has no Yard attached to it; it is in fact only a Species of Dungeon. The Magistrates have Power (under a Clause of 26 Geo. 3. c. 24., an Act for building a new County Gaol,) to commit to the County Prison, and in Practice always avail themselves of this Power.

York Gaols, p. 1750.

There are Two Gaols belonging to the Corporation, viz. the Gaol and the House of Correction. The former was built at an Expense of 14,000*l.*, and a Sum of between 12,000*l.* and 13,000*l.* has been expended in making Alterations in it. The House of Correction was built in 1813 at the Expense of 13,000*l.*

The Gaol is under the Management of the Sheriffs, subject to the Superintendence of the City Magistrates. Prisoners for Debt, under Process from the City Courts, are confined in the Gaol. Both Gaols are regularly visited by the Magistrates. They are very commodious, and capable of all the Classifications required by the Gaol Acts.

The Gaoler of the Sheriff's Gaol is appointed by him. His Salary is fixed by the City Magistrates; his Salary is 200*l.* a Year; he formerly made a Profit from the Transport Money allowed him, but an Alteration has recently been made in this respect.

The Gaoler gives a Bond to each Sheriff on his Appointment, with Four Sureties, in the Penalty of 4,000*l.* There is also an Under Keeper and Porter, who has a Salary of 40*l.* a Year, and a Matron, with an annual Salary of 20*l.*

The Surgeon has a Salary of 50*l.*, and the Chaplain a Salary of 75*l.*

The Keeper of the House of Correction has a Salary of 140*l.* a Year, the Matron 20*l.* a Year, the Under Keeper and Porter 50*l.* a Year. The Surgeon and Chaplain are the same Persons who perform those Duties in the other Gaol, and their Salaries are of the same Amount for each of those Duties, making the Total of the Surgeon's Salary 100*l.*, and the Chaplain's 150*l.*

The Expenses attending the Gaol are paid out of the County Rate.

The Castle, as Gaol of the County of York, is situate locally within the City, that is to say, it is surrounded by the County of the City, but forms no Part of it.

No. 2.

ABSTRACT

OF

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

SENT

By Order of the House of Lords to the Governors of the County Gaols of England and Wales, and Gaols of Cities and Boroughs, and certain other Corporations having Gaols, as to the Average Number of Prisoners, Gross Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, Salaries of Officers, Number and Description of Officers, Officers Emoluments, Officers fed or not in the Prisons, Schoolmasters or Provision made for Instruction, Debtors dieted or not at the Expense of the Counties.

No. 2. - - - - -

ABSTRACT of ANSWERS to QUERIES sent by Order of the House of Lords to the Governors of the having Gaols, as to the Average Number of Prisoners, Gross Amount of Victualling Bills paid and not in the Prisons, Schoolmasters or Provision made for Instruction, Debtors dieted or not at the

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
BEDFORD, Gaol and Old House of Correction.	49¼ per Day.	125*l.* 8*s.* or thereabouts.	152*l.* 15*s.* to the Four Officers. Surgeon and Chaplain, 57*l.* 10*s.*	Gaoler, Matron, Turnkey, Attendant on Tread-wheel.
BEDFORD, New House of Correction.	Average, 52 daily.	105*l.* 0*s.* 3½*d.*	104*l.* 15*s.*	Keeper, Turnkey, Matron.
BERKS, Common Gaol and House of Correction at Reading.	Average, to Easter Session 1835, 176 Days, 128 $\frac{68}{176}$; Debtors 13$\frac{142}{176}$. Total Number of Prisoners daily, 142$\frac{34}{176}$.	247*l.* 7*s.* 9½*d.* paid, and always paid quarterly.	399*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*	Nine Officers: Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Deputy Keeper, Turnkey, who is Housekeeper and Taskmaster, and Three Assistant Turnkeys.
BERKS, County Bridewell and House of Correction at Abingdon.	Thirty.	Victualling Bills paid, 91*l.* 1*s.* 2½*d.* Ditto unpaid, none.	198*l.* 4*s.*	Keeper, Two Turnkeys, Matron, Chaplain, Surgeon.
BUCKS, Gaol and House of Correction, Aylesbury.	123.	They are paid by the Treasurer of the County. I do not know the Amount.	495*l.* 16*s.* per Annum, including the Governor's Salary.	Governor, Matron, Clerk, Three Turnkeys, Baker, Schoolmaster.
CAMBRIDGE, Gaol and House of Correction.	71, from Michaelmas 1834 to 18th April 1835.	147*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*	97*l.* 10*s.*	Governor, Three Turnkeys, One Miller.
CHESTER Chester Castle.	Criminals, 87. Debtors, 39¼.	344*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* All paid.	556*l.* 16*s.*	Ten; viz., Constable, Chaplain, Surgeon, Taskmaster, Matron, Porter, Two Turnkeys, Two Watchmen.
CHESTER, Knutsford House of Correction.	Average from Michaelmas Quarter to Easter Quarter, 250.	453*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* None unpaid.	516*l.* 6*s.* Reduced since January Sessions, 7*l.* 10*s.* per Quarter.	Thirteen; viz., Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Auditor, Taskmaster, Three Turnkeys, Doorkeeper, Watchman, Matron and Assistant, Schoolmaster.
CORNWALL, Bodmin Gaol.	Criminals, 101. Debtors, 16.	331*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*	510*l.* 3*s.*	Sixteen; viz., Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Turnkey, Three Deputy Turnkeys, Miller, Tread wheel Superintendent, Shoemaker, Carpenter, Messenger, Schoolmaster, Porter, and Two Matrons.
CUMBERLAND, Gaol and House of Correction at Carlisle.	Fifty.	138*l.* 11*s.* 0¾*d.*	346*l.* 5*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Governor, Matron, Turnkey, Two Taskmasters, Messenger.

No. 2.

County Gaols of England and Wales, and Gaols of Cities and Boroughs, and certain other Corporations unpaid, Salaries of Officers, Number and Description of Officers, Officers Emoluments, Officers fed or Expense of the Counties.

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
None, except a House to live in.	None at the Expense of the County.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain instructs the Prisoners.	4¼ per Day.	None.	—
No Emoluments to any Officer in the Prison.	All the Officers board themselves.	Under the Instruction of the Chaplain. No School.	No Debtors come to this Prison.	—	—
None.	No.	No. Wards or Day Rooms are supplied with Books, and the Chaplain frequently attends to the Instruction of the Prisoners, particularly the juvenile Department.	$10\frac{59}{176}$	$3\frac{83}{176}$	—
Keeper, Turnkeys, and Matron, Apartments in the Prison, with Coals, Candles, and Washing by Prisoners, with Use of Garden. Gross Amount about 15*l.* This does not include House Rent.	No.	No. The Prisoners are taught and catechised by the Chaplain on Sundays, assisted by the other Officers of the Prison; and supplied with Books of various Descriptions, for their Instruction.	None.	None.	—
The Governor is allowed Coals, Candles, and Bread; Amount of, about 30*l.* per Annum. None of the other Officers have any Allowance.	No.	A Schoolmaster is appointed, who acts as Clerk to the Chaplain, and attends to the Instruction of the Boys and other Prisoners.	The whole of the Prisoners are dieted at the Expense of the County.	Eight.	—
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster, but various Books are supplied.	None.	Fifteen.	—
None. The Porter and Two Turnkeys reside in the Castle; Coals and Candles are found them, and also to the Matron.	No.	A Schoolmaster has been recently appointed: the unemployed Prisoners attend School Four Hours per Day: the Chaplain selects all Books of Instruction, &c.	None.	All Debtors are allowed 1lb. of Bread and 2lbs of Potatoes daily.	—
Governor, Half Year, 125*l.*; Taskmaster, 45*l.*; Three Turnkeys, 90*l.*; Porter, 25*l.*; Matron and Assistant, 54*l.* with Coals, Candles and Soap; Chaplain, 60*l.*; Surgeon, 50*l.*; Auditor, 20*l.*; Watchman, 27*l.* 6*s.*; Schoolmaster, 12*l.* 10*s.*	No; all Officers provide their own Provisions.	Yes; he attends Three Days per Week from Nine 'till Twelve and from One to Four in the Afternoon.	None.	None.	—
3*l.* 6*s.* received by the Governor for Copies of Warrants, and for conveying Debtors to Insolvent Court.	No.	Yes; who attends every Sunday to instruct the Prisoners, assisted by one of the Turnkeys. The Books are found by the County.	Seven.	Nine.	—
6*l.* The Governor has received 4*l.* 4*s.* for Copies of Warrants supplied to Debtors, and 1*l.* 16*s.* for taking up Insolvents to be heard before the Commissioners.	The Officers are not fed in the Prison.	There is no Schoolmaster, but the Chaplain frequently visits the Prison; and Prisoners who can read are encouraged to instruct others who cannot.	Sixteen.	Nine.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoner

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Descripti of Officers for the same Period?*
DERBY, Gaol and House of Correction.	Eighty-nine.	276*l.* 7*s.* 9¾*d.*, from 14th September to 25th April.	606*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*	Governor, Matron, Six Male Tur keys, One Female Turnke Night Watchman.
DEVON, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	205, from Michaelmas 1834 to Easter Session 1835.	492*l.* 11*s.* 10¼*d.* All paid.	£ s. d. Keeper - - 250 0 0 Under Keeper - 50 0 0 Chaplain - - 100 0 0 Assistant and Two Clerks - - 44 0 0 Surgeon - - 50 0 0 Matron - - 30 0 0 Six Turnkeys - 122 0 0 Female Turnkey - 15 0 0 Nurse in Hospital 10 0 0 £671 10 0	Keeper, Under Keeper, Chapla Assistant and Two Clerks, Su geon, Matron, Six Turnke One Female Turnkey, Nurse Hospital.
DORSET, Dorchester Gaol.	139$\frac{177}{183}$, from 30th September 1834 to 25th March 1835, both inclusive.	£ s. d. Bread - - 113 6 4 Maintenance - 182 1 5 Sickness - - 27 2 2 £322 9 11 No Victualling Bills remain unpaid.	419*l.* 10*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Keep Matron, Clerk, Five Turnke Miller.
DURHAM, Gaol and House of Correction.	Debtors - - - 50 Prisoners - - - 118 168 This Average is low as compared with the last Four Years. The Silent System has been in practice for Four Months.	410*l.* 4*s.*, from 15th October 1834 to 18th April 1835, both Days inclusive.	474*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* The Surgeon's Salary includes Medicines.	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeo Taskmaster, Three Turnke Gate Porter, Schoolmast Matron, and Female Searcher
ESSEX, Gaol and House of Correction, Chelmsford.	19, from 1st September 1834 to 28th February 1835.	7*l.* 8*s.* 2¾*d.* for extra Allowance to sick Persons. The other Bills are included in the Return from the Gaol at Springfield.	291*l.* 3*s.*	Governor, Matron, Two Turnke Porter, Schoolmistress, Fem Turnkey, Two Watchme Governor has since retired a Pension.
ESSEX, Convict Gaol, Springfield.	216.	614*l.* 8*s.* 9½*d.*	579*l.* 15*s.* 104*l.* for Miller and Shoemaker, paid by the Profits.	Governor, Three Turnkeys, Tur keys Assistant, Porter, Scho master, Baker, Two Watchme Miller, Shoemaker.
ESSEX, Halsted House of Correction.	28 per Day.	Two last Quarters paid 77*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* 55 Days not paid, 9*l.* 6*s.* 9½*d.*	For Two last Quarters, 136*l.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Tur key, Matron.
ESSEX, Newport House of Correction.	Ten.	29*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*	The Governor has 47*l.* per Annum; the Amount for that Period is 26*l.* 4*s.*	There is only the Governor.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
There is not any Emoluments.	They are not fed in the Prison.	The Male Prisoners are taught to read by one of the Officers, under the Direction of the Chaplain: the Females are taught to read by the Matron, and receive Instruction occasionally from the Ladies who attend the Gaol. The Chaplain hears the Females read once a Week.	1⅛ daily, from 14th September to 25th April.	Nearly Five daily, from 14th September to 25th April.	—
All the Officers, except the Chaplain and his Assistant and Two Clerks, have Apartments in the Prison, with Coals and Candles for their Use.	None.	No regular Schoolmaster, but the juvenile Offenders are taught to read by one of the Prisoners selected by the Chaplain, who attends Three Times a Week.	No Debtors confined in these Prisons.	None.	The Return sent herewith I have made up from Michaelmas Sessions 1834 to Easter Sessions 1835, that being the latest Period to which the Accounts have been made up, and being a nominal Half Year; but I beg leave to remark that the Period is only 25 Weeks instead of 26, consequently there will be a Deficiency in the Victualling Account, No. 2., and also in the Six Male Turnkeys Wages, No. 3., who are paid weekly, the whole Six being at the Rate of 14*s.* per Day, or 4*l.* 18*s.* per Week. All the other Officers, having annual Salaries, are stated in the Return for the full Half Year. I hope my Return will be found explicit; if not I shall be most happy to render all further Information in my Power. 26th April 1835. (Signed) W. Cole.
One Sixth of the Male Prisoners Earnings to the Keeper, 23*l.* 2*s.* 7½*d.*; One Sixth of the Female Prisoners Earnings to the Matron, 4*l.* 16*s.*; Total 27*l.* 18*s.* 7½*d.*	No.	When juvenile Offenders are in Custody, one of the most competent of the Prisoners is appointed to instruct them.	$3\frac{177}{321}$	$8\frac{177}{321}$	—
The Governor, Taskmaster, Matron, One Turnkey, and Gate Porter are allowed Houses, Coals and Candles; the Houses are attached to the Prisons. The Account of Coals and Candles for these Officers is not kept separate, therefore cannot be stated. One Turnkey is allowed 6*l.* per Annum instead of House.	The Officers are not dieted at the Expense of the County.	Yes. All Male Prisoners under Twenty Years of Age attend School from One to Half past Two daily; and Books are provided for their Use, under the Direction of the Chaplain.	Fifteen.	Thirty-five.	—
The late Governor received about 60*l.* per Annum for Bed Rent, &c. from the Debtors, and about 5*l.* per Annum for Copies of Warrants, &c.; also a House, Coals, and Candles.	No; none of the Officers are dieted at the Expense of the County.	No. There are no Male Prisoners except Debtors, and they are not supposed to require a Schoolmaster.	Twenty-six.	Twenty.	—
None, except a House, Coals, and Candles for the Governor.	They are fed in the Prison, but at their own Expense.	Yes. The Prisoners assemble for Instruction in the Chapel, in Four Divisions, at Four different Hours of the Day, and are subdivided into Classes; they are provided with Books.	None.	None.	—
The Keeper and Matron have Apartments in the House belonging to the Prison, and are allowed Coals, Candles, and Soap.	None.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain finds them Books, which are paid for by the County; and he often hears them read.	None.	None.	—
There are no Emoluments.	No Officers.	No Schoolmaster. No Provision is made for Instruction.	None.	None.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisone

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Descript of Officers for the same Period*
ESSEX, Colchester House of Correction.	12, from 2d of February last.	9*l.* 19*s.*	41*l.* 15*s.*	Governor, Turnkey, Matron.
ESSEX, Ilford House of Correction.	41, to the Easter Session 1835.	71*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.*, all paid to Easter Quarter Sessions 1835.	226*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to Easter Sessions.	Chaplain, Surgeon, Governo Matron, First and Seco Turnkey.
GLOUCESTER, Common Gaol.	Prisoners, 206; Debtors, 28.	581*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*	335*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*	Governor, Clerk, Two Porte Two Officers in the Penite tiary, Officer on the Gaol Si Miller, Night Guard, Nur Matron, Messenger.
GLOUCESTER, Prison at Little Dean.	Average Number of Prisoners for that Time, 13.	The Amount of Bills paid for Victuals, 24*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*	Chaplain, 30*l.*; Surgeon, 7*l.* 10*s.*; Keeper, 37*l.* 10*s.*; Turnkey, 20*l.*; Matron, 7*l.* 10*s.*	Keeper, Turnkey, Matron.
GLOUCESTER, Prison at Northleach.	Average, from Michaelmas Session 1834 to Easter Session 1835, is 43.	72*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*	142*l.* 13*s.*	Keeper, Matron, Turnkey, Mille Surgeon, Chaplain.
GLOUCESTER, House of Correction, Lawford's Gate.	16⅔.	36*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*	139*l.* 10*s.*	Governor, Matron, Two Turnkey Chaplain, Surgeon.
GLOUCESTER, House of Correction, Horseley.	Forty-eight.	90*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*	96*l.* 10*s.*	Governor, Two Turnkeys, Matro
HANTS, County Gaol at Winchester.	Fifty.	The whole of the Victualling Bills are paid, amounting to 96*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	293*l.*	Governor, Matron, Three Turn keys, a Man to fetch Bread fro the Bridewell, and Debtors an Prisoners Provisions from t Town.
HANTS, Bridewell at Winchester.	151.	310*l.* 7*s.*	430*l.* This includes the Chaplain's Salary of 150*l.*, and the Surgeon's of 75*l.* for this Prison and the County Gaol. *	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, M tron, Four Male Turnkeys.
HANTS, Bridewell at Gosport.	Twenty-eight.	Paid, 22*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*; unpaid, 3*l.* 9*s.* 10¾*d.*; from the last Quarter to 30th April 1835.	135*l.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeo Turnkey, Matron.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster, the Number of Prisoners being limited; but Books are provided.	None.	None.	— —
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain appoints a Prisoner to teach others to read.	None.	None.	—
Not any.	No.	No Schoolmaster; but Books are provided at the Expense of the County and distributed by the Chaplain. By his Direction some of the Prisoners instruct the others in reading.	Twenty-two.	Six.	—
Not any Emolument received at the Prison.	No Officers or any one else are fed at the Expense of the County.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain attends twice a Week, hears the Prisoners read and repeat the Catechism.	No Debtors in this Prison.	Not any.	—
Keeper, 50*l.*, and Coals and Candles; Matron, 10*l.*; Turnkey, 18*l.* 4*s.*, and Coals and Candles; Miller, 18*l.* 4*s.*; Surgeon, 15*l.*; Chaplain, 31*l.* 5*s.*	None.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain instructs the Boys and others in reading, and also catechises them when he visits the Gaol.	By a Local Act, extending over Part of the County, Debtors under 2*l.* are committed to this Prison. In each Case the Creditor pays 3*d.* per Day to the Debtor, with which he provides his own Subsistence, but has no Food at the Expense of the County: only Four such Debtors have been committed in the last Year.	None.	—
None.	None.	No Schoolmaster. All the Instruction the Prisoners receive is from the Chaplain.	None.	None.	—
No Emolument or Fees.	The Officers live in the Prison, and are maintained at their own Expense.	No Schoolmaster. The Prisoners are instructed by the Chaplain, and provided with Books and Testaments at the Expense of the County.	Only Twelve in Six Months.	None.	—
Coals, amounting to 9*l.* 10*s.* 1½*d.*	None dieted.	The Chaplain instructs, with the Assistance of some of the Prisoners.	Nine.	Six.	—
Governor, 50*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*; each Turnkey, 12*l.* 11*s.* 7¼*d.*; Moiety of Savings from Officers baking Bread for this Establishment and the Gaol; also for Prisoners grinding Corn.	None.	No; but in each Ward a Prisoner is required to give Instruction to such Prisoners as are desirous of learning to read. All Boys are required to learn to read.	- -	- -	These Officers are not named in the Gaol Return, as it was thought more advisable to let their entire Salaries appear in One Return than to make a Division of them.
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster; but the Chaplain attends once a Week to give Religious Instruction.	Eighteen.	None.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoners,

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions* 1834?	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
HEREFORD, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	Sixty-three.	148*l.* 16*s.* 9¼*d.*	403*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Matron, Four Under Officers, Errand Woman, Matron and one Under Officer on the superannuated List.
HERTFORD, Gaol and House of Correction.	105.	273*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*	396*l.* 12*s.*	Governor, Assistant Do., who is Schoolmaster, Four Turnkeys, Miller, Matron, Watchman.
HUNTINGDON, Gaol and House of Correction.	52, to 6th April 1835.	108*l.* 0*s.* 4½*d.*	128*l.* 2*s.*	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron, Baker, and Miller, who occasionally assist the Turnkey. A Night Watch during the Confinement of Prisoners under Sentence of Transportation.
KENT, County Gaol, Maidstone.	344 to Easter 1835, including, on an Average, Twenty who maintain themselves.	654*l.* 10*s.* 3½*d.*, the whole of which is paid by the County Treasurer to the Persons who contract for the Supply of the Prisons.	865*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*	Keeper, Surgeon, Chaplain, Matron, Head Turnkey, Two Turnkeys at the Entrance Lodge, Six Turnkeys, Watchman, Schoolmaster, Miller, Female Turnkey, Female Superintendent of Tread-mill Labour, Superintendent of Manufactory.
KENT, Prisons at St. Augustine's, Canterbury.	69, to Easter Sessions 1835.	108*l.* 1*s.* 2½*d.*	256*l.* 19*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Taskmaster, Three Turnkeys, Watchman.
LANCASTER, Lancaster Castle.	283.	886*l.* 1*s.* 5¼*d.*	925*l.* 12*s.*	Keeper, Assistant Do., Chaplain, Surgeon, Taskmaster, Four Turnkeys, Chapel Clerk, Schoolmaster, Matron and Assistant, Watchman.
LANCASTER, House of Correction at Kirkdale.	638.	1,233*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*	952*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Taskmaster, Seven Turnkeys, Miller, Schoolmaster, Watchman, Matron, and Seven Female Assistants.
LANCASTER, Preston House of Correction.	157.	Paid £319 7 4 Unpaid 19 0 0 £338 7 4 up to the 18th of April.	592*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* from 15th October 1834 to 18th April 1835, in proportion to the Number of Days.	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron and Assistant Clerk, Taskmaster, Two Turnkeys, Mill Watchman, Miller, Schoolmaster, Two Night Watchmen.
LANCASTER, Salford New Bailey Prison.	558.	984*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*	1,102*l.* 5*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Steward, Taskmaster, Matron, Assistant Governor, Eight Turnkeys, Three Female Turnkeys, Hospital Nurse, Schoolmaster, Miller, Three Watchmen.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c.— *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors, not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	OBSERVATIONS.
The Governor received 84*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, being 6*s.* 8*d.* on the Discharge of each Debtor; also 7*l.* 14*s.* 9½*d.*, being his Share of the Earnings of the Prisoners for keeping the Accounts.	There are no Officers fed in the Prison; they all find themselves.	No Schoolmaster. One of the Prisoners instructs the others in reading, under the Chaplain. There is a School for the Females under the Care of the Chaplain's Wife. The Chaplain hears the Prisoners read the Scriptures daily, and instructs them in Religious and Moral Duties.	Six Master Debtors.	Four Poor Debtors.	——
No Emoluments.	The Chief Turnkey resides in the Prison, and is paid and fed by the Governor out of his Salary. The Miller and Matron also have Apartments within the Walls of the Prison.	A Schoolmaster is appointed by the Visiting Magistrates to instruct the juvenile Prisoners before Trial, under the Superintendence of the Chaplain.	Two.	Eight.	——
About 5*l.*, by an Allowance of Coals and Candles to the Turnkey and Baker, &c.	No.	No. The Chaplain instructs the Prisoners; and Bibles and other Religious Books are supplied by the County.	One.	Three.	——
No Emoluments are received by any of the Officers of the Prison; such of them as reside in the Prison are allowed Coals and Candles.	None.	Yes; he attends twice a Day to instruct the Male Prisoners from Ward to Ward in reading and in the Church Catechism. The Women receive Instruction from a Female under the Chaplain's Superintendence. Bibles, Tracts, and Prayer Books are placed in the inhabited Cells and Wards.	Twenty.	Four.	——
The Turnkeys, Taskmaster, and Matron receive 1½lb. of Bread per Day, the gross Amount of which is about 4*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*	No.	When there are any juvenile Prisoners they are instructed to read by a Prisoner or one of the Turnkeys. The Wards are supplied with Bibles, Testaments, and other Religious Books.	Six.	None.	——
No Emolument of any Description, except their respective Salaries, the Gross Amount of which is stated at No. 3.	None.	There is a Schoolmaster; he instructs the Male Prisoners in the Rudiments of English, Writing, and Accounts. The Assistant Matron instructs the Females.	171½.	81½.	——
None.	None.	A Schoolmaster. The School is under the Direction of the Chaplain.	None.	None.	——
None.	None.	Yes; he teaches reading to Prisoners before Trial.	Nine.	One.	——
None.	None.	The Schoolmaster attends Morning and Afternoon in a Room for the Purpose, and is under the Direction of the Chaplain.	None.	None.	——

No.2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoners

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions* 1834?	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
LEICESTER, Common Gaol and Female House of Correction.	52, to Easter Sessions 1835.	125*l.* 5*s.* 5½*d.*	330*l.* 2*s.*	Gaoler, Four Turnkeys, Matron, Female Turnkey, Chaplain, Surgeon, Schoolmaster.
LEICESTER, House of Correction.	113, from Michaelmas Quarter Session, 1834 to Easter Sessions 1835.	330*l.* 10*s.* 1¼*d.*	225*l.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Governor, Miller, Four Turnkeys, Schoolmaster. The Chaplain and Surgeon also attend the County Gaol.
LINCOLN, Lincoln Castle.	Seventeen.	70*l.* 16*s.* 8½*d.*	439*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Keeper, Matron, Head Keeper, Under Keeper, who acts as Schoolmaster, Gatekeeper, Cook, Watchman, who acts as Chapel Clerk.
LINCOLN, Kirton House of Correction.	48, to Easter Quarter Sessions, 10th April 1835.	181*l.* 12*s.* 1½*d.*	192*l.* 6*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Keeper, Matron, Turnkey.
LINCOLN, Spilsby House of Correction.	Forty-one.	169*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*	123*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*	Keeper, Matron, Two Turnkeys.
LINCOLN, Louth House of Correction.	56, from Michaelmas Sessions 1834 to 25th April 1835.	Paid 226*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* Unpaid 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*	172*l.*	Keeper, Matron, Two Turnkeys, Miller.
LINCOLN, Folkingham House of Correction.	43, from 13th October 1834 to 18th April 1835.	158*l.* 9*s.* 5¾*d.*	178*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Surveyor, Governor, Matron, House Turnkey, Gate Turnkey.
LINCOLN, Spalding House of Correction.	Forty-two.	126*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*	118*l.* 10*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Governor, Matron, Turnkey.
LINCOLN, Skirbeck House of Correction.	71, from the 14th October 1834 to 25th April 1835.	Paid 54*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Unpaid 4*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* Each Prisoner allowed 6*d.* per Day.	Keeper 50*l.* Surgeon 12*l.* 12*s.*	Keeper, Surgeon.
MIDDLESEX, New Prison, Clerkenwell.	161.	356*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*	1,151*l.* 19*s.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Clerk, Turnkey, Two Female Turnkeys, Schoolmaster, Seven Officers for conveying Prisoners to and from Police Offices.
MIDDLESEX, House of Correction, Coldbath Fields.	904, to Lady Day 1835.	2,007*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*	2,636*l.* 14*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Clerk, Storekeeper, 36 to 40 Male Turnkeys, 8 to 9 Female Turnkeys. The Variation arises from Leave of Absence, Suspension, &c.
MONMOUTH, Gaol and House of Correction.	46, from 14th October 1834 to 26th April 1335.	195*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*	Keeper, 28 Weeks, 80*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*; Matron, 11*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*; Turnkey, 35*l.*; Overseer, 14*l.*	Keeper, Matron, Turnkey, Overseer to attend the Tread wheel.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period.*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors, not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
The Gaoler has 1*s.* for every Copy of a Warrant he may certify; also 5*s.* 6*d.* from every Debtor who takes the Benefit of the Insolvent Courts; about 3*l.* 18*s.* No Account kept.	They are not.	We have a Schoolmaster. A School-room is provided, where Reading and Writing is taught the Prisoners every Day.	One.	Eleven.	——
None, with the Exception of 1*s.* each paid to the Governor and Turnkeys when a Whipping takes place. The Gross Amount 1*l.* 5*s.*	They are not.	A Schoolmaster attends Two Hours each Day, and Four Hours on Sunday, teaching Reading and Writing on Slates.	None.	No Debtors.	——
Not any.	No.	No. The Under Turnkey teaches the Prisoners, and they are encouraged to instruct each other. The Holy Scriptures and other Books are allowed by the Chaplain.	Sixteen.	Seventeen.	——
Keeper One Sixth of the Prisoners, amounting to 1*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*	No.	No, the Prisoners instruct each other.	None.	Six.	——
None.	None.	No Schoolmaster, and no Provision made for Instruction.	——	Three.	——
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster, nor is any Provision made for Instruction.	All Prisoners are dieted at the Expense of the County.	$2\frac{74}{187}$	——
None.	No.	None.	None.	No Debtors.	——
Not any.	Not any.	No.	Not any.	Two.	——
None.	Keeper lives in the House of Correction, but finds himself.	None.	None.	Four; paid Victualling Bill, 2*l.* 14*s.*	——
Clerk has, for making Copies of Commitments, about 10*l.* per Annum.	None.	A Schoolmaster is appointed at the same Wages as the Turnkey, whose Duty it is to hear the Boys read and repeat the Church Service, Moning and Evening.	——	——	This Prison has no Debtors, and receives only Prisoners before Trial and for want of Sureties.
Storekeeper, First Turnkey, Gatekeeper, Coals, Candles, and Soap, Value 5*l.* each; Matron and Assistant Ditto about 7*l.* 10*s.*; Clerk, for Copies of Commitments, 8*s.*	No Officers are fed in the Prison.	Yes; who is assisted by well-conducted Prisoners, who instructs the Boys and Lads. Books are furnished by the County.	No.	No.	——
Keeper, 18*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; Coals, Candles, and Soap, 6*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*; Lodgings for Debtors and Warrants, 12*l.* 6*s.*; Turnkey, for Coals, Candles, and flogging Prisoners, 3*l.* 5*s.*	None.	None. The Prisoners who can read teach those who cannot. The Classes are provided with Bibles, Prayer Books, Religious Tracts, and Spelling Books.	Three.	Six.	——

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisone

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Descript of Officers for the same Period*
MONMOUTH, House of Correction or Bridewell at Usk.	26, from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834 to 30th April 1835.	82*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* from the same to the same.	From Michaelmas 1834 to 30th April 1835, 78*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*	Governor, Matron, Turnkey.
NORFOLK, Gaol and House of Correction.	134.	405*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*	645*l.* 18*s.*	Gaoler, Chaplain, Surgeon, Port Miller, Taskmaster, Scho master, Three Turnkeys.
NORFOLK, House of Correction at Little Walsingham.	83½.	216*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*	329*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, M tron, Two Turnkeys, Fem Turnkey, Taskmaster, Mill an additional Turnkey I Quarter.
NORFOLK, Wymondham House of Correction.	Twenty.	43*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*	Keeper, 50*l.*; Matron, 10*l.*; Turnkey, 13*l.*; Surgeon, 15*l.*; Chaplain, 50*l.*	Keeper, Matron, Turnkey.
NORFOLK, Swaffham Gaol.	Forty-seven.	88*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*	308*l.* 10*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Governo Two Turnkeys, Miller.
NORTHAMPTON, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	105, from Michaelmas 1834 to April 1835.	250*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*	Gaoler, 115*l.*; Matron, 15*l.*; Chaplain, 100*l.*; Surgeon, 20*l.*; Three Turnkeys, each, 26*l.*; Baker, 26*l.*; Clerk for keeping Baking Accounts, and for procuring Averages of Corn, 5*l.* 5*s.*	Gaoler, Matron, Chaplain, Su geon, Three Turnkeys, Bake who acts as a Turnkey.
NORTHUMBERLAND, County Gaol and House of Correction at Morpeth.	31, from Michaelmas to Easter Sessions.	97*l.* 12*s.* 9½*d.*	239*l.* 15*s.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Taskmaste Chaplain's Clerk, Matron, Po ter, Turnkey, Matron's Assis ant.
NORTHUMBERLAND, House of Correction, Tynemouth.	52; or on an Average of about One Prisoner every Two Days.	The Prisoners are allowed 4*d.* per Day from the County, out of which they provide themselves from the Tradesmen, who are allowed to attend the Prison; and which costs the County 36*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*	Keeper, 75*l.*	Keeper.
NORTHUMBERLAND, House of Correction, Hexham.	Nine.	27*l.* 16*s.*	20*l.*	Gaoler.
NORTHUMBERLAND, House of Correction, Alnwick.	Daily Average, from 16th October 1834 'till 9th April 1835, Eight.	23*l.* 16*s.*	27*l.*	The Keeper.
NOTTINGHAM, County Gaol.	From Michaelmas to Easter Quarter Sessions, 6th April 1835, Thirty.	118*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*	226*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*	Gaoler, Chaplain, Surgeon, M tron, Two Turnkeys.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	OBSERVATIONS.
None, except Candles.	The Officers diet themselves, but reside in the Prison Day and Night.	None. The Prisoners are supplied with Bibles, Prayer Books, and Tracts by the Governor, to such of them as can read.	No Debtors in this Prison.	——	——
None.	No.	Yes; and he is constantly employed to teach the Prisoners to read. Books are found for that Purpose.	None.	Twenty-two.	——
Taskmaster is allowed a Quarter of the Mill Earnings, the Gross Amount of which is 5*l.* 9*s.* 5¼*d.*	None.	None; but a Man is selected to teach the Prisoners.	None.	None.	——
None.	No.	None.	None in Custody.	None received.	——
None.	No.	None. The Chaplain devotes an Hour every Day after Morning Service in examining the new-come Prisoners, and instructing others; also an Hour on the Sunday Afternoon.	All are dieted at the Expense of the County.	None are received at this Prison.	——
Gaoler:—Fees on Discharge of Debtors, and Bed Fees, 43*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; Cravings, 24*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*; Prisoners Earnings, 17*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*; Attendance at Assizes, 3*l.* 3*s.*; Copies of Warrants, 5*l.* 5*s.* Two Turnkeys:—Debtors Fees, 1*l.* 14*s.* Total:—95*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*	No.	The Chaplain attends to those who are desirous to learn, and appoints a Person to instruct them.	Three.	10; at the Expense of 16*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* for the Six Months.	——
None.	No.	No; those who can read and write teach the others.	One.	Twenty-one.	——
None.	Keeper lives in the Prison, but finds his own Provisions.	None.	None.	None.	——
None.	Gaoler lives in the Prison, but finds his own Provision.	None.	None.	None.	——
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster. Prisoners are lent Bibles and other Religious Books by the Keeper.	None.	None.	——
Fees for removing Thirty-three Convicts to the Hulks, 24*l.* 15*s.* Furnished Apartments for Debtors at 2*s.* per Week each, with a Deduction for Wear and Tear of 30*s.*, for Twenty-five Weeks.	No.	No Schoolmaster. Bibles, Testaments, Prayer Books, and Religious Tracts are given out to the Prisoners.	None.	Twenty. The Debtors are allowed a Pound Loaf per Day each.	——

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoners

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
NOTTINGHAM, House of Correction, Southwell.	For the Epiphany Quarter, 156. And for the Easter Quarter, 157.	Epiphany Quarter £184 10 6 Easter Quarter - 242 0 9 £426 11 3	346*l.* 11*s.*	Keeper, Matron, Taskmaster Porter, Two Turnkeys, Chaplain, Surgeon. The Taskmaster and Two Turnkeys were appointed on the Introduction of the System o Silence.
OXFORD, Gaol and House of Correction.	155.	448*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*	301*l.* 9*s.*	Governor, Matron, Five Turnkeys, Female Turnkey, Watchman.
RUTLAND, Gaol and House of Correction at Oakham.	Ten.	29*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*	130*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Gaoler, and Turnkey.
SALOP, County Gaol and House of Correction.	131.	311*l.* 10*s.* 5½*d.*	503*l.* 17*s.*	Gaoler, Chaplain, Surgeon, Taskmaster, Matron, Three Turnkeys, Porter, Watchman, Schoolmaster.
SOMERSET, Ilchester Common Gaol.	90, to the present Period.	141*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* from Michaelmas Sessions 1834 to Easter Sessions 1835.	855*l.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Three Turnkeys, Matron, Female Searcher.
SOMERSET, Wilton House of Correction.	112.	215*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* including extra Diet for Sick, and Food given to Prisoners on their Discharge. The Weekly Cost per Head is about 1*s.* 3*d.*	215*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, and 87*l.* 10*s.* for Chaplain and Surgeon. Chaplain 125*l.*, Surgeon 50*l.* per Annum each.	Chaplain, Surgeon; Governor 200*l.* Turnkey 50*l.*, Matron 20*l*; Two Guards, at Tread-wheel at 16*s.* and 14*s.*, Miller and Baker 16*s.* per Week, Guard in Gaol 14*s.* per Week; Extra Guard at 2*s.* per Day
SOMERSET, Shepton Mallet House of Correction.	213.	Paid 244*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* Unpaid 190*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*	424*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*	Keeper, Turnkey, Matron, Chaplain, Surgeon, Eight Guardsmen.
STAFFORD, County Prison.	300.	Bread - £443 6 6 Potatoes - 123 13 6 Oatmeal - 32 5 8 Salt - 2 2 0 £601 7 8 From Michaelmas 1834 to Lady Day 1835.	£686 0 0 18 4 0 Assistant Officer, not yet appointed by the Court on the Establishment.	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Taskmaster, Five Turnkeys Miller and Baker, Porter, Matron, Female Turnkey.
SUFFOLK, Ipswich Gaol.	From 10th October 1834 to 3d April 1835, 126.	355*l.* 18*s.* 7¾*d.*	179*l.* 4*s.*	Gaoler, Two Turnkeys, Two Servants.
SUFFOLK, Bury St. Edmonds Gaol and House of Correction.	145.	421*l.* 8*s.*	421*l.* 2*s.* 391*l.* 2*s.* paid by the County. 30*l.* paid by the Governor.	Governor, Matron, Three Turnkeys, Female Turnkey, Schoolmaster, Porter, Two Watchman, Miller.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
All the Officers are allowed Fuel; the Matron and Taskmistress are not charged for the washing of their Linen; the whole may be estimated at 60*l.* per Annum.	None.	The Chaplain superintends the Instruction of the Prisoners, and the Turnkeys and Wardsmen attend regularly to enforce the Regulations of Discipline and Education, as are directed by the Visiting Justices and Chaplain. Religious Books published by the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, are distributed among the Prisoners, and the System of Silence having been introduced lately, the Psalms, Lessons, and Religious Books are read aloud by One of the Turnkeys or Prisoners, while the others are compelled to observe strict Attention.	None. No Debtors confined in this Prison.	None.	—
None.	Yes, at their own Expense.	The Chaplain attends daily.	Six.	Five.	—
Chaplain, 50*l.*; Surgeon, 7*l.* 10*s.*; Gaoler, 50*l.*; Turnkey, 22*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	No.	No Schoolmaster; but we have a Library for the Use of the Prisoners. The Books are selected by the Chaplain.	None.	None.	—
Taskmaster's Per-centage on Work, and daily Allowance of 2*d.* per Day for Ten Prisoners employed for the Benefit of the County, 17*l.* 15*s.* Matron's Per-centage, 6*s.* 1¾*d.*	The whole of the Officers find themselves.	A Schoolmaster is appointed to instruct the Prisoners daily, under the Direction of the Chaplain; and proper Books are allowed.	Fourteen.	Four.	—
None.	No.	Yes; and who every Morning attends to instruct the Prisoners requiring his Assistance.	Twenty-four.	Fourteen.	—
The Guard at the Wheel has 14*s.* per Week, and is allowed 2*s.* per Week as Clerk to Chaplain.	None.	A Schoolmaster. The Prisoners are assembled daily by the Chaplain, who reads Prayers and lectures them. No Provision made for Instruction.	None.	None.	The most profound Silence is kept Day and Night.
None.	They are not.	No Schoolmaster; the Boys are instructed in Reading by the Keeper and Wardsmen.	None.	None.	—
All the Officers in the Prison are allowed Coals and Candles, which are delivered out from the General Stock; but the Amount cannot be ascertained.	No.	No. The Chaplain gives Instruction daily; and a Wardsman instructs the Boys when not at work.	Twenty-one.	Nine.	Prisoners after Trial are not allowed Butchers Meat.
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain instructs the Prisoners.	Eighteen.	Three.	—
All Fees and Emoluments abolished. The Governor receives for each of Four Journeys to Portsmouth with Convicts, 10*l.*	No Officers are fed in the Prison, but Coals and Candles are provided for the Use of the Prison.	A Schoolmaster attends from Nine in the Morning 'till Six in the Evening, and instructs in Writing and Reading.	One.	Six.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoners

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
SUFFOLK, Beccles House of Correction.	Twenty-eight.	65*l.* 5*s.* 2½*d.*	154*l.* 6*s.*	Gaoler, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Turnkey.
SUFFOLK, Woodbridge House of Correction.	Thirteen.	47*l.* 4*s.* 7¾*d.*	38*l.* 16*s.* for Keeper only.	Keeper, Matron.
SURREY, County Gaol.	146.	480*l.* 3*s.* 6½*d.*	747*l.* 14*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Five Turnkeys, Two Day Watchmen, Two Night Watchmen, Matron, Female Turnkey, Secretary to the Visiting Magistrates.
SURREY, Brixton House of Correction.	220.	540*l.* 15*s.*	689*l.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Secretary, Matron, Nine Turnkeys, Two Female Turnkeys, Miller and Boy, Baker, Cook, Watchman.
SURREY, Guildford House of Correction.	112.	319*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*	225*l.* 6*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Miller, Four Turnkeys, Female Turnkey; One Turnkey is Schoolmaster.
SURREY, Kingston House of Correction.	Twenty-five.	64*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*	169*l.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Governor, Matron, Turnkey.
SUSSEX, Horsham Gaol.	Twenty-six.	90*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*	324*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*	Governor, Taskmaster, Three Turnkeys, Matron and Assistant Part of the Time.
SUSSEX, Lewes House of Correction.	123.	349*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*	335*l.*, except the Surgeon, who is paid 4*s.* per Head for every Prisoner committed.	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Five Turnkeys, Female Turnkey.
SUSSEX, Petworth House of Correction.	74$\frac{169}{188}$. I have added the Number of Days to make Eighty-eight; without which, I presume, no Average could be correctly ascertained.	£190 15 3¼ Extras by Order of the Surgeon 16 3 11 £206 19 2½	Paid out of County Rate - - £282 0 0 Paid out of Profits of Manufactures 24 3 5 £306 3 5	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Matron, Schoolmaster, Three Turnkeys, Master Manufacturer.
SUSSEX, Battle House of Correction.	Four.	81*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*	Keeper - £30 0 0 Matron - 8 0 0	Keeper, Matron.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
None.	No.	The Turnkey acts as Schoolmaster; and the Chaplain attends Three Days a Week, exclusive of his Sunday Duty, to instruct the Prisoners.	No Debtors confined in this Prison.	None.	——
Travelling Expenses only allowed: 9*l.* 16*s.*	No.	No Schoolmaster. Chaplain gives Religious Instruction Three Times a Week.	None.	None.	——
None.	The Officers are not fed in the Prison, but the Governor, Clerk, Turnkeys, Watchmen, and Matron are allowed 1½ lb. of Bread daily, the Cost thereof, 18*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* included in the Victualling Bills.	There is no Schoolmaster, nor is any Provision made for Instruction.	Eighty-four.	Thirty-eight.	——
Matron, 3*l.* 15*s.*; One Turnkey, for attending the School, 3*l.* 15*s.* Lodge Turnkey 2*l.* 5*s.* for privately whipping Boys pursuant to their Sentences.	No: each Officer is allowed 1½lb. of Bread per Day, as we manufacture Bread; the Cost thereof for Half a Year is 22*l.* 10*s.*	Matron for the Females, a Turnkey for the Males. The Schools are One Hour each Day under the Superintendence of the Chaplain.	No Debtors.	No.	——
13*l.* 7*s.* 8½*d.* is received by the Governor as his Share of the Prisoners Earnings at 20 per Cent.	Governor, Matron, and Five Turnkeys are allowed 1½lb. of Bread per Diem; the Cost thereof is 5*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*	Yes; the School is superintended by the Chaplain for One Hour before Service on Sundays, and for One Hour after Evening Service; and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for Three Quarters of an Hour from Two P.M.; they read the Bible, Testament, and Parent Adult School Book.	None.	None.	——
Governor's Per-centage on Prisoners Earnings 1*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*	Governor, Matron, and Turnkey are allowed 1½lb. of Bread daily, at 1¾*d.* per lb. per Week, 4*s.* 6¼*d.*; or for the Period stated 6*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain attends daily and affords Instruction to the Prisoners.	No Debtors.	No Debtors.	——
I have received 5*l.* 5*s.* for Copies of Warrants and taking Insolvents to Court.	No.	The Chaplain instructs the Prisoners to read and write; and is confined to the Prison Three Hours per Day.	Seven.	Seventeen.	——
None.	None.	No Schoolmaster: the Chaplain instructs the Prisoners.	None.	None dieted.	Three Turnkeys have their Food brought to them in the Prison, and Two in rotation are allowed to dine at home; and they all, except One, sleep in the Prison.
Keeper allowed for Clerkship, 10*l.*, and a House, with Coals and Candles.	No.	Yes, who attends Three Days per Week, under the Superintendence of the Chaplain, who provides Books at the Expense of the County.	None.	None.	——
None.	None.	None.	None.	None.	——

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoners

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
WARWICK, Common Gaol.	156, from 13th October 1834 to 5th April 1835.	482*l.* 4*s.* 3½*d.*	644*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Matron and Assistant, Turnkey, Turnkey for Debtors, Porter, Letterman, Watchman, Night Watchman, Superintendent at Tread-mill.
WARWICK, House of Correction.	188.	473*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*	353*l.* for Half a Year. Paid quarterly up to the Easter Sessions.	Governor, Clerk, Matron, Five Turnkeys, Miller, Baker, Night Watchman.
WESTMORLAND, Appleby Gaol and House of Correction.	Eleven.	38*l.* 14*s.* 6½*d.* from Michaelmas to Easter Session. All paid.	Keeper - - - £ 50 0 0 Turnkey - - 15 0 0 Matron - - - 12 10 0 Surgeon - - 5 5 0 Chaplain - - 21 0 0 Total for the Half Year - - £103 15 0	Chaplain, Surgeon, Keeper, Turnkey, Matron.
WILTS, Fisherton Anger Gaol.	Sixty.	113*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* Bills paid quarterly.	377*l.*	Governor, Deputy Governor, Matron, Two Turnkeys and One Assistant, Chaplain, Surgeon, and an Annuity to the late Chaplain.
WILTS, Devizes House of Correction.	178.	396*l.* 1*s.* 6½*d.*	383*l.* 10*s.*	Governor, Matron, Sub-Governor, Miller and Baker, Three Turnkeys, Porter.
WILTS, Devizes Bridewell.	Average for a Half Year, 21¼.	53*l.* 3*s.*	Keeper, 42*l.* 10*s.*; Matron, 10*l.*; Surgeon, 10*l.*; Chaplain, 25*l.*; Assistant Turnkey, 14*l.* 14*s.*	Keeper, Matron, Surgeon, Chaplain, Assistant Turnkey.
WILTS, Marlboro' Bridewell.	Eleven.	23*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*	74*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon.
WORCESTER, County Gaol.	155.	377*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*	Permanent, 504*l.*; temporary, 61*l.*; Total, 565*l.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Matron, Three Turnkeys, Porter, Baker, Miller, Two Watchmen, and Messenger, permanent. Carpenter, Two Tailors, and Assistants to convey Prisoners to Trial.
YORK, York Castle.	Eighty.	281*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*	721*l.* 13*s.*	Gaoler, Deputy Gaoler, Four Turnkeys, Porter, Matron, Day Watchman, Night Watchman.
YORK, East Riding House of Correction, Beverley.	Seventy-one, from 30th September 1834 to 13th April 1835.	192*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, paid and unpaid.	323*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Gaoler, Under Gaoler, Miller, Matron, Watchman, Schoolmaster.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments, of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	OBSERVATIONS.
Keeper, for Copies of Warrants, taking Debtors to Insolvents Court, Rent, Coals, and Washing, 17*l.* 10*s.*; the Two Turnkeys, Porter, Matron, and Clerk each have Coals, Washing, and the Use of Rooms in the Gaol, each about 3*l.* 10*s.*	No.	The Schoolmaster is selected from among the Prisoners, who teaches the Boys to read and spell, and the Catechisms.	Eighteen.	Ten. Bread only allowed.	—
None.	No.	A Prisoner is selected by the Chaplain, who instructs the Boys in reading the Catechism.	None.	None.	—
None.	Only exempt from House Rent.	No Schoolmaster, or Provision made for Instruction. If Boys are committed Gaoler instructs them; the Books are paid for by the County. Well supplied with Bibles and Prayer Books.	Two.	Three.	—
About 2*l.* 10*s.* the Turnkeys are allowed by the County for shaving the Prisoners, and for those committed from New Sarum. To the Governor 1*s.* on Receipt of a Declaration against a Debtor, and 3*s.* 6*d.* for Copy of Warrant and Certificate, when required.	Yes; Three of them which are fed by the Governor at 10*l.* for Half a Year each.	No Schoolmaster, and no Provision made, but attended occasionally by the Chaplain when required.	About Fourteen.	Twelve.	—
None.	All the Officers are fed in the Prison, but not at the Expense of the County.	No Schoolmaster, but Instruction is conveyed through the Chaplain.	No Debtors.	None.	—
None.	None.	No Schoolmaster; but the Prisoners are allowed Bibles and Prayer Books for their Use.	None.	No.	—
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster. Books are provided for Instruction.	None.	None.	—
Governor has $\frac{1}{8}$ of the Prisoners Earnings, 16*l.* 8*s.* 3$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*; Fees, Bills paid by County, 15*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* Total, 31*l.* 9*s.* 7$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*	All the Officers find themselves.	No Schoolmaster. A Prisoner employed to instruct Boys, under the Superintendence of the Chaplain.	Eight.	Fifteen.	—
None.	Officers not dieted in the Prison.	No Schoolmaster. Prisoners are supplied with Books, Pens, Ink, and Paper, under the Superintendence of one of the Officers who has been a Schoolmaster.	Thirteen.	Eighty-one.	—
22*l.* 6*s.* Fees.	None.	A Schoolmaster is appointed, who attends the Prisoners Six Evenings in the Week after Work; he teaches Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic.	None.	None.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoner

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Descripti of Officers for the same Period*
YORK, North Riding House of Correction, North Allerton.	66, from the 13th October 1834 to the 13th April 1835.	208*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* None unpaid.	194*l.* 4*s.* 7½*d.*	Gaoler, Under Gaoler, Matro Miller, who is a Turnkey, Nig Watchman, Superintendent Silence. The Two last appoint the 23d February last, when t Silent System was adopted.
YORK, West Riding House of Correction, Wakefield.	378½ from Michaelmas 1834 to 30th April 1835.	836*l.* 9*s.* 4½*d.*	811*l.* 18*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeo Taskmaster, Matron and Und Matron, Two Superintendent Four Turnkeys, Two Watchme Day Watchman, Porter, Mille Baker, Storekeeper, Schoo master.
ANGLESEY, Gaol and House of Correction.	About 12.	No Victualling Bills. 36*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* This Sum has been paid to Prisoners to provide themselves.	68*l.* 16*s.*	Chaplain, Clerk, Surgeon, Gaole Matron.
BRECON, County Gaol and House of Correction.	Eleven.	24*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*	Governor, 65*l.*; Matron, 10*l.*; Turnkey, 39*l.* Gross Amount, 114*l.*	Governor, Matron, Turnkey.
CARDIGAN, Gaol and House of Correction.	Seven.	43*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*	102*l.* 14*s.*	Gaoler, Keeper, Matron, Chap lain, Surgeon.
CARMARTHEN, County Gaol.	From 6 to 8.	Prisoners before Trial are allowed 2*s.* per Week each payable from the County Stock in the Common Gaol.	Gaoler's Salary is 200*l.*, out of which he pays all the inferior Officers.	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron, Assist ant Turnkey.
CARMARTHEN, House of Correction.	From 10 to 14.	The Gross Amount from Michaelmas 1834 was 37*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, viz. Six Months.	100*l.* for the last Six Months.	Gaoler, Turnkey, and Matron an an Assistant Turnkey.
CARNARVON, Gaol and House of Correction.	—	—	—	—
DENBIGH, Ruthin County Gaol and House of Correction.	Eighteen.	72*l.* 16*s.* from Michaelmas 1834 to 18th Mareh 1835.	Gaoler, 33*l.* 10*s.*; Turnkey, 20*l.* 16*s.*; Matron, 22*l.* 10*s.*; Surgeon, 26*l.* 5*s.*; Chaplain, 26*l.* 5*s.*	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron, Sur geon, Chaplain.
FLINT, County Gaol and House of Correction.	Fourteen.	70*l.* to 9th April, Debtors included. None unpaid.	65*l.*	Gaoler, Matron, Turnkey.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
Gaoler:—2*s.* on the Discharge of each Prisoner, 16*l.* 4*s.*; House, Coals, and Taxes paid, 20*l.* 10*s.* The Under Gaoler and Miller have House and Coals, valued at 13*l.* 12*s.* Total:—50*l.* 6*s.*	None.	No Schoolmaster; but the Chaplain furnishes the Prisoners with Books.	None.	None.	—
The Governor receives $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Prisoners Earnings, which amount to 77*l.* 18*s.* 8$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*	None.	A Schoolmaster is appointed, who teaches the Prisoners to read.	Two Men for Trial, dieted themselves for Fourteen Days.	No Debtors confined in this Prison.	—
Gaolers: House, Fire, Candles, and Oil; about 6*l.*	No.	None.	Two.	Four.	—
No.	No.	There is no Schoolmaster, but the Prisoners who have been educated are employed to instruct and teach those who have not, and are supplied with Books necessary for that Purpose.	No.	Five.	—
Fuel for the Governor, 2*l.* 12*s.*; Three Copies of Warrants for Debt, 7*s.* 6*d.*	No.	No; but the Chaplain occasionally assists.	Two.	Six.	—
1*s.* 6*d.* for each Copy of Writs required. The Gaoler is supplied with Coals at the Expense of the County; the Cost thereof is 10*l.*	The Officers are fed in the Prison at the Expense of the Gaoler, the Cost of which for Six Months is 60*l.*	There is no Schoolmaster, but the Chaplain attends daily to read Prayers and instruct the Prisoners in Reading and Writing, and are supplied with Books of all Descriptions.	Two within the last Six Years.	Average Six to Eight, at 2*s.* each weekly.	—
The Gaoler receives 1*s.* 6*d.* for the Copy of a Writ for the Detention of any Debtor, and 1*s.* for the Copy of any Commitment: he is also supplied with Coals at the Expense of the County.	The Officers are all fed in the Prison at the Expense of the Gaoler, and the Expense of the Four for the last Six Months was about 60*l.*	There is no Schoolmaster, but the Chaplain attends daily to read Prayers and instruct the Prisoners in Reading and Writing, and are supplied with Books of all Descriptions.	No.	No.	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
There are no Emoluments received, except for every Copy of a Commitment that is wanted 1*s.* is paid.	The Officers provide themselves with Food out of their Salaries.	There is no Schoolmaster. The Chaplain distributes Tracts and Religious Books to the Prisoners.	There are only Two Debtors that do not receive the County Allowance of 2*s.* 6*d.* each per Week.	Four receive the weekly Allowance of 2*s.* 6*d.* each.	—
No.	They are; and at the Expense of the Gaoler, out of the above Sum.	No. Bibles, Testaments, and Tracts are found the Prisoners, at the County Expense.	No.	Five.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoners

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Description of Officers for the same Period?*
GLAMORGAN, Cardiff County Gaol.	41¼.	126*l.* 18*s.* 3¼*d.*	224*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*	Governor, Matron, Two Turnkeys, Taskmaster, Chaplain, Surgeon.
GLAMORGAN, Swansea House of Correction.	18½.	54*l.* 4*s.* 3¼*d.*	116*l.* 10*s.* including Surgeon and Chaplain's Salary.	Governor, Surgeon, Turnkey, Chaplain, Matron.
MERIONETH, Dolgelly County Gaol and House of Correction.	Four.	2*s.* 6*d.* a Week paid in Money to every Prisoner.	Gaoler 60*l.* per Annum.	Gaoler; Assistant when required.
MONTGOMERY, County Gaol.	Eighteen.	57*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*	Gaoler, 50*l.*; Turnkey 15*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, Total, 65*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* Matron, the Gaoler's Wife, no Salary yet fixed.	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron.
PEMBROKE.	Thirty-four.	142*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*	132*l.* 12*s.*	Governor, Matron, Miller, Chaplain, Surgeon.
RADNOR.	None.	None.	None.	None.
LONDON, City of, Gaol of Newgate.	275.	733*l.* 11*s.*	1,013*l.* 10*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Chapel Clerk, Three Turnkeys, 11 Under Turnkeys, Cook, Two Matrons, Searcher, Two Executioners.
LONDON, City of, Giltspur Street Compter.	151.	349*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*	994*l.* 5*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeon, Taskmaster, Matron, Cook, Nurse, Five Turnkeys, Baker, Chapel Clerk, Watchman, Superintendent of Workmen.
LONDON, City of, Debtors Prison, Whitecross Street.	410.	657*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*	1,160*l.* 15*s.*	Keeper, Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk, Nine Turnkeys, Watchman, Cook, Matron, Nurse for the Sick Ward, Chapel Clerk.
LONDON, City of, Borough of Southwark Compter.	Thirteen.	48*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*	275*l.* 7*s.*	High Bailiff (his Emoluments are exclusive of the Prison, and not included in the above Statement), Keeper, Matron, Chaplain, Surgeon, Two Turnkeys.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
Coals and Candles, worth about 8*l.*	No.	No Schoolmaster, but the Prisoners are provided with Spelling Books, Bibles, Tracts, &c.	3⅜.	6¼.	—
No.	They are not fed in the Prison.	No.	No.	No.	—
None.	No.	No.	None.	2*s.* 6*d.* a Week to about 3 upon an Average.	—
Gaoler: Profit out of the County Allowance of 3*s.* a Mile in removing Three Transports to Woolwich and the Penitentiary, 14*l.* None to any other Officer.	The Gaoler and his Family have a House in the Prison, and diet themselves out of his Salary. The Turnkey boards with the Gaoler, and his dieting for the Half Year is 7*l.* 10*s.*	No Schoolmaster or Instruction.	No.	Seven.	—
None.	They are not, except the Miller, who receives the same Allowance as the Prisoners. 2*s.* 9*d.* per Week each for the Period mentioned, 3*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*	There is no Schoolmaster. The Prisoners are provided with School Books and Bibles.	1 Warrant Prisoner, and 5 Debtors.	Two.	—
None.	None.	None.	None since Michaelmas last.	None.	—
None.	No.	One of the Prisoners officiates as Schoolmaster. Bibles and Prayer Books are kept in the Wards for the Instruction of the Prisoners.	None.	None.	—
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster; but Bibles and Prayer Books are placed in the Wards for the Use of the Prisoners.	None.	None; but, if any, they would be dieted at the Expense of the Corporation of the City of London.	—
The Keeper only, who receives by the Act 3*s.* for each Prisoner taken to the Insolvent Court; this, and removing Prisoners by Habeas, in Six Months is 75*l.*	None.	No Schoolmaster; the Chaplain reads Prayers in the Chapel daily, and preaches Two Sermons on Sundays. He also gives and lends Books.	All are dieted.	410.	The Surgeon receives a Salary, which includes the Medicines supplied. The Keeper is liable for all the Debts the Prisoners are charged with in the event of Escape from Prison or while being conveyed. He gives Security for 20,000*l.* in Ten Bondsmen annually to the Sheriffs.
About 10*l.* received by the Keeper: for reading Prayers on Week-days 5*l.*, and the Remainder for Copies of Commitments, and conducting Insolvents to the Court.	None of the Officers are fed in the Prison. The Matron receives the usual Allowance to One Prisoner — about 1*l.* 15*s.*	No. The Prisoners are allowed Bibles, Prayer Books, and Homilies for their own reading.	Fourteen.	None.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisoner

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions* 1834 ?	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period ?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period ?*	*Also the Number and Descripti of Officers for the same Period*
NORWICH, City of, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	Nineteen.	156*l.* 6*s.*	186*l.* 5*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Gaoler, M tron, Three Turnkeys.
BRISTOL, City of, Common Gaol.	115, to 25th March 1835.	170*l.*	340*l.* 17*s.*	Governor, Taskmaster, Matro Two Turnkeys, Night Watc man, Two extra Assistants sin the Riots, Day Patrole.
BRISTOL, City of, House of Correction.	13, from Michaelmas 1834 to 25th March 1835.	15*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*	Keeper, 47*l.* 10*s.*; Turnkey, 23*l.* 3*s.*; for the same Period	Keeper, Turnkey.
CHESTER, City of, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	34, from Michaelmas 1834 to 23d April 1835.	98*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, paid and unpaid.	Keeper, 45*l.*; Turnkey, 26*l.*; Matron, 15*l.* Total, 86*l.*	Keeper, Turnkey, Matron.
COVENTRY, City of, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	Fifty.	126*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*	205*l.*	Chaplain, Gaoler, Two Turnkey Matron, Surgeon.
EXETER, City of, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	Forty.	The Bills are paid by the Mayor and Chamber. I do not know the Amount.	Gaoler, 105*l.* per Annum; of which the City pay 35*l.*, and County the Remainder; Task-master, Schoolmaster, and Clerk of the Chapel, 30*l.* by the County; Matron, 20*l.*, paid by the County.	Gaoler, Taskmaster, Schoolmaste Clerk of the Chapel, Matron.
GLOUCESTER, City of, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	$29\frac{101}{176}$.	Gaol, 86*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*; Bride-well, 3*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*	Gaol: — Gaoler, 52*l.* 10*s.*; Turnkey, 25*l.*; Matron, 15*l.*; Total, 92*l.* 10*s.* Bridewell: — Keeper, 7*l.*; Matron, 4*l.* Total, 11*l.*	Gaol.—Gaoler, Turnkey, Matro Bridewell:—Keeper, Matron.
WESTMINSTER, City and Liberty of, Bridewell or House of Cor-rection.	287, to 25th March 1835.	614*l.* 15*s.* $10\frac{3}{4}$*d.*	1,264*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surgeo Matron, Cook, Twelve Tur keys, Storekeeper, Gatekeepe Oakum Master, Engineer, Po ter, Clerk, and Five Fema Turnkeys.
WORCESTER, City of, Common Gaol, Bridewell, and House of Correction.	Sixteen.	58*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*	148*l.* 18*l.* 4*s.* has been paid out of that Sum to a Watchman while the Prison was repairing.	Keeper, Matron, Two Turnkey Errand Woman, Watchman.
YORK, City of, Common Gaol.	Eight.	30*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*	135*l.*	Gaoler, Under Gaoler, Matron.
YORK, City of, House of Correction.	Nineteen.	61*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*	170*l.* 10*s.*	Keeper, Under Keeper, Matro Chaplain, Surgeon, Clerk.

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	OBSERVATIONS.
75*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* by Gaoler, for Fees.	The Three Turnkeys are allowed 1½ lb. of Bread daily; Cost 4*l.* 2*s.* 7½*d.* This Sum is included in the Gross Amount.	None. Books of Instruction are given to those who can read to teach others.	Eight.	Eleven.	—
None.	No.	The Chaplain and Assistants attend every Sunday to instruct them that cannot read. They are all supplied with Books.	Forty.	None. Poor Debtors having no Subsistence or Friends are dieted as other Prisoners. They are so few we cannot average them daily.	—
None.	No.	A Schoolmaster attends voluntarily One Day in the Week.	None.	None.	This Prison was burnt down by Rioters in 1831, except Six Cells and a Day-room and Yard. A new Building is now erecting, and will be completed in the course of the Year.
None.	No; but the Turnkey and Matron are allowed 1 lb. of Bread per Day, 1¾lb. of Oatmeal per Day, and Potatoes.	None.	One.	Three.	—
None.	No.	None.	No.	Fourteen.	—
Only the Gaoler, who has received for Fees, 16*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*	They all find their own Provisions.	The Taskmaster, Schoolmaster, and Clerk of the Chapel acts as Turnkey, there being little to employ him in the former Capacities. The Gaoler acts as Schoolmaster, and instructs the Prisoners in Reading and Writing.	Five.	None dieted at the Expense of the County; but certain Poor Debtors are allowed by the County 6*d.* per Day. Average of Prisoners receiving Pay, Two.	—
None.	Yes, but at their own Expense.	No Schoolmaster; but the Chaplain occasionally gives Instruction; and a Visiting Committee of Ladies direct their Attention to the Female Prisoners.	—	About Five; none but those imprisoned by Order of the Court of Requests; they are allowed a Loaf of Bread and 1*d.* a Day.	—
None.	None.	There is no paid Schoolmaster; but Persons capable of teaching the Juveniles are selected for that Duty from among the Prisoners.	None.	7. Each is allowed One Pint of Gruel and 20 oz. of Bread daily by the County, and otherwise supported by their Friends.	—
3*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* has been received by the Keeper for Debtors Fees and Work.	None.	No Schoolmaster; the Chaplain instructs the Prisoners.	One.	Three.	—
Gaoler, for copying Commitments and Notices for Insolvents, 2*l.* 1*s.*	No.	No; but Bibles, Prayer Books, and Tracts are provided.	Two.	Eight.	—
None.	No.	No Schoolmaster. The Chaplain instructs the Prisoners in their Religious Duties. Those who can read teach those who cannot.	None.	None.	—

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisone

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions* 1834?	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Descript of Officers for the same Perio*
KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, Town and County of, Gaol and House of Correction.	Seventy to Easter Sessions 1835.	175*l.* 8*s.*	281*l.* 3*s.*	Governor, Matron, Chaplain, S geon, Two Turnkeys, Ta master, Two Gatekeepers.
LEICESTER, Town of, Common Gaol.	Twenty-eight.	61*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*	Governor - £60 0 0 Turnkey - 26 0 0 £86 0 0	Governor, Turnkey.
LEICESTER, Town of, Bridewell and House of Correction.	Twenty-five.	Paid - £27 11 9 Unpaid - 6 19 10	Gaoler, 25*0l.*; Turnkey, 52*l.* 10*s.*; Matron, 20*l.*	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron.
LIVERPOOL, Town of, Borough Gaol.	22⅔.	87*l.* 10*s.*	462*l.* 10*s.*	Governor, Chaplain, Surge Four Turnkeys, Watchman.
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, Town of, Common Gaol.	Twenty-six from 5th October 1834, to 28th March 1835.	55*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*	220*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*	Keeper, Turnkey, Porter, Matr Schoolmaster, who is also Ch lain's Clerk and Taskmast Chaplain, Surgeon, Scho mistress, Barber, Milk-carri and Clerk to Visiting Justice
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, Town of, House of Correction and Bridewell.	Sixty-nine from 5th October 1834, to 28th March, 1835.	143*l.* 6*s.*	141*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*	Keeper, Taskmaster, who is a Schoolmaster and Chaplai Clerk, Under Taskmast Matron, Chaplain, Surge Schoolmistress, Barber, Mil carrier, Clerk of Visiting J tices.
NOTTINGHAM, Town of, Common Gaol.	Twenty-four from Michaelmas 1834, to 30th April 1835.	49*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*	130*l.*	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron.
NOTTINGHAM, Town of, House of Correction.	Seventy-six.	229*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*	Governor, 75*l.*; Matron, 12*l.* 10*s.*; Turnkey, 28*l.* 12*s.*; Surgeon, 42*l.*; Chaplain, 30*l.*; Superintendent of Tread-wheel, 29*l.* 18*s.*	Governor, Matron, Turnkey, S geon, Chaplain, Superintend of Tread-wheel.
PORTSMOUTH, Town of, Common Gaol and House of Correction.	Fifty.	80*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*	178*l.* 5*s.*	Gaoler, 100*l.*; Turnkey, 5 Surgeon, 15*l.* 15*s.*; Matr 12*l.* 10*s.*

.mount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

lso the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
—	None.	No Schoolmaster; but a School is open for those who are desirous of Instruction; who are instructed by one of the Prisoners, under the Chaplain.	Twelve.	Eight.	—
None are received.	None.	None.	—	—	—
None.	No.	None.	None	None. Only Four since Michaelmas Sessions.	—
urnkey, as Clerk of Chaplain.	None.	No Schoolmaster. The Gaol has mostly Debtors and a few Prisoners under Local Acts. Prisoners are not sentenced to this Gaol from the Sessions.	Nineteen.	Twenty-two by the Parish of Liverpool, at Sixpence per Diem, under the Act of Parliament. 64¼ by the Corporation of Liverpool, at Sixpence per Diem in lieu of Provisions.	Salaries and all Expenses paid by the Corporation of Liverpool.
aoler receives about Thirty Shillings for Copies of Cases of Prisoners in Insolvents Court, and for bringing up Prisoners before Commissioners of Bankrupt, and Habeas Corpus.	No.	A Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress instruct the Prisoners on alternate Days of the Week in Reading and Writing.	Eighteen.	Twelve Debtors in 174 Days, at the Expense of the County. No Daily Average can be stated.	—
None.	No.	A Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress instruct the Prisoners on alternate Days of the Week in Reading and Writing.	None.	None.	—
None.	None.	No permanent Instruction. The Chaplain and other Religious Persons visit the Prison occasionally.	None.	Ten.	—
None.	None.	None.	None.	None.	—
None.	None.	No Schoolmaster. Prisoners desirous of learning to read are instructed by a Prisoner who is competent.	Two.	Three.	—

No 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisone

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions* 1834 ?	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period ?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period ?*	*Also the Number and Descript of Officers for the same Perio*
Seventeen other Corporations.				
BERWICK-UPON-TWEED.	Sixteen.	No Gaol Diet is provided for the Prisoners. Felons are paid 4*d.* per Day; Debtors, 6*d.* per Diem; Burgess Debtors are by the Corporation allowed 3*d.* per Day extra.	Gaoler, 40*l.*; Assistant Gaoler, 20*l.*; Chaplain, 20*l.*; Surgeon, 10*l.*	Gaoler, Chaplain, Surgeon, Assi ant to Gaoler, to go on Erran purchase Victuals for the P soners, &c.
CAMBRIDGE.	Twenty-nine.	The Victualling Bills are paid by the Town Treasurer; so that I cannot answer this.	Gaoler, 80*l.*; Turnkey, 52*l.*; Matron, 10*l.*; Surgeon, 50*l.*; Chaplain, 40*l.*; Extra Assistant, 6*l.* Total, 238*l.*	Gaoler, Turnkey, Matron, Surge Chaplain.
CANTERBURY.	Nineteen.	I have nothing to do with the Victualling Bills.	Gaoler, 60*l.*; Matron, 10*l.* per Annum.	Gaoler, Matron.
DERBY, Corporate Prison.	Twenty-three.	63*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*	106*l.* 16*s.*	Chaplain, Surgeon, Gaoler, Matr Turnkey.
ELY, Corporate Prison.	Twelve.	34*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*	20*l.*; which is paid by the Lord Bishop of the Franchise.	Gaoler.
HEREFORD, City.	Fifteen.	About 12*l.* per Quarter.	Gaoler, 42*l.*; Serjeants at Mace, 18*l.*; Porters, 6*s.* per Week, Beadle, 16*s.* per Week.	Sword bearer or Magistrates Cle Four Serjeants, Four Porte Crier, Beadle, Gaoler.
IPSWICH, Corporate Prison.	Twenty.	For Felons:—Paid, 41*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*; unpaid, 16*l.* 10*s.* Total, 57*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* For Debtors:—Paid 2*l.* 9*s.*; unpaid, 11*s.* 4*d.* Total, 3*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*	Surgeon, 50*l.*; Chaplain, 30*l.*; Gaoler, 80*l.*	Gaoler, Turnkey, Surgeon, Cha lain.
LICHFIELD.	Four.	Paid,—12*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* Unpaid,—4*l.* 15*s.*	50*l.*	Gaoler and an Assistant.
LINCOLN, City.	Nineteen to Twenty per Day, from 16th October 1834 to 29th April 1835.	71*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* paid by the Gaoler, every Morning at 4½*d.* per Head; and he receives it of the Treasurer every Twenty-one Days.	Gaoler 80*l.*, out of which he finds Straw for Beds, Pails, Tubs, &c. Turnkey, 31*l.* 10*s.* with Coals and Candles.	None.
LYNN, Corporate Prison.	Twenty-five.	To Lady Day last, 98*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* The Sum of 23*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* will be about the Sum due at Midsummer Quarter Day.	Gaoler 100*l.* and a House.	None but the Gaoler.

nount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

lso the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
None.	No.	None; but the Chaplain reads Prayers every Sunday, and preaches a Sermon to the Prisoners.	None.	All are paid at the Expense of the County.	—
one; not allowed by 6 G. 4. c. 64.	No Officers are dieted.	No. But the Prisoners have Bibles, Prayer Books, Tracts, &c.; and are attended by the Chaplain.	None at this Time.	Four since last Nov. to 27th March. None at this Time.	—
No Emoluments received.	No.	No Schoolmaster.	Nineteen.	None.	—
None.	None.	None; but a Prisoner is appointed to give the others Instruction. The Chaplain attends once a Week for the Purpose. The Matron teaches the Females.	Two.	Three.	—
l. in lieu of Fees, and 35*l.* for removing Transports to the Hulks, which are paid out of the Isle Rate.	No.	No.	None.	One.	—
No Emoluments, except Summonses or Warrants, for which they receive 1*s.* each.	None.	None.	The Average about Five.	None.	—
None.	Only the Turnkey paid and dieted by Gaoler in the Prison from the Salary.	None, only by the Chaplain of the Gaol.	Three.	Two.	—
No Emolument, except the above Salary of 50*l.* to the Gaoler, who pays the Assistant.	No.	No.	Two.	One.	—
None.	No.	None; but there are Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer Books for the Use of the Prisoners.	108 Days in this Period received nothing.	More that One, but not Two. Amount received in 378 Days, for Debtors Allowance, at 4½*d.* per Day, is 7*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*	—
None.	No.	No Provision for Instruction.	None.	Two.	The Gaoler is paid 7*d.* per Day for each Prisoner, and finds Board, Shaving, Hair-cutting, Washing, Soap, Necessaries for the Sick, Worsted for mending Stockings, and Rugs, and Kindling for the Hall and Gaol. Two Thirds is paid by the Corporation, and One Third out of the Poor Rate.

No. 2.—Abstract of Answers to Queries sent to Governors of Gaols in England and Wales as to Number of Prisone

QUESTIONS.	*Transmit the Daily Average Number of Prisoners in Prison from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1834?*	*Also the Gross Amount of the Victualling Bills, paid and unpaid, for the same Period?*	*Also the Gross Amount of Salaries to Officers of every Description for the same Period?*	*Also the Number and Descript of Officers for the same Period*
NORTHAMPTON, Corporate Prison.	Twelve.	None.	Gaoler, 63*l.*; includes all Fees.	Gaoler.
OXFORD.	No Return.	——	——	——
PETERBORO'	No Return.	——	——	——
ST. ALBAN'S.	No Prison.	——	——	——
SOUTHAMPTON, Corporate Prison.	Four, from Michaelmas 1834 to Lady Day 1835.	9*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; the Bills are paid Quarterly. The above is for Six Months to Lady Day 1835.	Keeper, 15*l.* for Six Months.	Keeper.
WINCHESTER, Corporate Prison.	$2\frac{78}{105}$	Bread, 6*l.* 17*s.* 9½*d.*, not paid. Meat, 2*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, paid.	Gaoler, 7*l.* 10*s.* per Annum.	Gaoler.
YARMOUTH, Borough Gaol and House of Correction.	Thirty.	Gaol, 45*l.* 0*s.* 0¾*d.*; House of Correction, 31*l.* 5*s.* 2½*d.*; Total from Michaelmas 1834 to Lady Day 1835, 76*l.* 5*s.* 3¼*d.*	Gaoler, 103*l.*; Matron, 10*l.*; Keeper of House of Correction, 20*l.*; Gaol Turnkey, 14*s.* per Week.	Gaoler, Matron, and Turnkey, w have the Care of both Prisons

No. 3. Abstract of Return as to Silent System in the Gaols, &c. in Surrey.

No. 3.

ABSTRACT of RETURN of the CHAIRMAN of the QUARTER SESSIONS of the County of SURREY to Questions from the Select Committee of the House of Lords, as to Silence being kept in Gaols and Houses of Correction. (*See* Appendix to First Report, p. 124.)

Question 1.—Is there any Rule or Regulation for enforcing Silence in any of the Gaols or Houses of Correction under your Jurisdiction, and under what Authority established?

In the County Gaol of *Newington* there is no such Rule.

At *Brixton*, the following Rule is in force — "Strict Silence shall be observed throughout the Prison during the Hours of Labour and Meals, and the Prisoners shall be confined in their Cells on Sundays, except during the Hours of Divine Service and of School, which is considered under the Direction of the Chaplain."

At *Guildford*, Silence has been enforced while at Labour, under the Direction of the Visiting Magistrates, and under an Order of Quarter Sessions of Midsummer 1832.

At *Kingston on Thames*, there is no such Rule.

Q. 2.—Is the Rule of keeping Silence in the said Prisons or Houses of Correction strictly enforced by Day and Night?

At *Brixton*, the Order for keeping Silence is confined to the Hours of Labour and Meals; it is enforced sufficiently to prevent Disorder only, but not so strictly as the Visiting Magistrates would desire, in consequence of the additional Number of Officers that would be necessary to carry it into full Effect.

At

Amount of Victualling Bills paid and unpaid, and Salaries, Number, Description, and Emoluments of Officers, &c. — *continued.*

Also the Gross Amount and the Nature of any Emoluments which each or any of the Officers received during the same Period?	*Are the Officers fed in the Prison? If so, state the Number so dieted, and the Expense thereof, for the same Period?*	*Have you a Schoolmaster, and what Provision is made for Instruction?*	*Daily Average Number of Debtors not dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*Daily Average of Debtors dieted at the Expense of the County?*	*OBSERVATIONS.*
None.	No.	Not any.	None.	None.	Debtors, cannot sta above Four in Year.
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	I beg to say th the Corporation St. Alban's have Prison. C. Cock
None.	None.	No Schoolmaster, or any Provision for Instruction.	No Debtors are confined in this Prison. All the Prisoners are fed at the Expense of the County.	None.	—
Received 10*s.* for Copies of Warrants.	None.	No.	One.	None.	—
None.	No.	A Person attends gratuitously One Day per Week to teach the Prisoners; they are found Bibles, Prayer Books, and other Books, and Pens, Ink, and Paper.	None.	Five, dieted at the Expense of the Corporation.	—

No. 3. Abstract of Return as to Silent System in the Gaols, &c. in Surrey.

At *Guildford*, Silence is strictly enforced when at Labour; but when locked up in their Cells there is much Difficulty in preventing Prisoners holding Intercourse with each other through the Windows and Ventilators: moreover, the Officers are under the Necessity of putting more Prisoners than One in a Cell.

Q. 3.—By what Means is the Rule enforced?

At *Brixton*, by having a Turnkey in each of the large Classes, Two Turnkeys to the Four smaller Classes, and by the Assistance of Wardsmen.

At *Guildford*, by the constant Attendance of the Turnkeys while at Labour.

Q. 4.—Is any and what Punishment inflicted on a Violation of that Rule by a Prisoner?

At *Brixton*, by checking the Prisoners for a first Offence, and by confining them for a limited Period on Bread and Water in a Cell entirely dark, but which receives a Supply of fresh Air through a spiral Tube, without admitting a Ray of Light.

At *Guildford*, if Prisoners on Tread-wheel are not silent, they are deprived of their Turn of Rest, and frequently by dark Confinement, and being kept on Bread and Water. If they talk in their Cells at Night, they may be confined in a dark Cell and on Bread and Water Diet.

Q. 5.—How long has this Rule been in force?

At *Brixton*, since Midsummer 1832.

At *Guildford*, from the first Establishment of the Tread-wheels in 1822 Silence has been enforced while at Labour.

Q. 6.—What appears to have been the Effects from the Adoption of this Rule upon the Conduct and Character of the Prisoners?

At *Brixton*, a great Improvement was made by the Regulation, in the general Prison Discipline, which immediately presented a much more orderly Character.

At *Guildford*, it is considered by the Prisoners as a Degree of Punishment to be kept silent, and the Governor reports it a great Improvement to Prison Discipline.

No. 4. Regulations for House of Correction at Aylesbury which the Judges declined to subscribe.

No. 4.

LETTER from the CLERK OF THE PEACE of the County of BUCKS to the Chairman of the Select Committee on Gaols, &c., inclosing the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the House of Correction at Aylesbury, submitted to the Judges of Assize in 1834, who declined to subscribe the same.

My Lord Duke, Aylesbury, 11th April 1835.

In consequence of the Communication made by Mr. Sherriff, the Keeper of the Gaol of this County, that your Grace had expressed a Desire to be furnished with a Copy of the additional Rules made at Midsummer Session 1834 for the County of Bucks, and afterwards submitted to the Judges of Assize, at the Summer Assizes 1834, for this County, who declined to subscribe the same; I beg leave to inclose a Copy thereof accordingly. I should observe that no Rules and Regulations under the 4th Geo. 4. c. 64. had been before made by the Magistrates.

I have the Honour to be,
My Lord Duke,
Your Grace's very obedient humble Servant,
THOMAS TINDAL,
Clerk of the Peace for Bucks.

To his Grace the Duke of Richmond.

BUCKS } At the General Quarter Session of the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the
to wit. } King, holden at Aylesbury, in and for the said County, on Tuesday in the First Week after the Twenty-fourth Day of June, to wit the First Day of July in the Fifth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord William the Fourth, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, and in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, before Sir Thomas Digby Aubrey, Baronet, Sir Thomas Francis Freemantle, Baronet, Sir John Dashwood King, Baronet, Sir Harry Verney, Baronet, Sir William Lawrence Young, Baronet, James Du Pre, Esquire, Henry Hanmer, Esquire, John Lee, Esquire, Doctor of Laws, John Norris, Esquire, George Carrington, Esquire, Thomas Raymond Barker, Esquire, Benjamin Fuller, Esquire, William Fitch Arnold, Esquire, William Lowndes, Esquire, The Reverend John Tyrwhitt Drake, The Reverend William Wodley, The Reverend Thomas Archer, The Reverend William Bruton Wroth, The Reverend John Pretyman, and others their Fellows, Keepers of the Peace, and Justices of our said Lord the King, assigned to preserve the Peace in the County aforesaid, and also to hear and determine divers Felonies, Trespasses, and other Misdemeanors done and committed in the said County, and so forth.

Resolved,

That the following further and additional Rules and Regulations for the Government of the House of Correction at Aylesbury are considered expedient by the Justices of the Peace assembled at this present Quarter Session.

That the Prisoners committed to the House of Correction under Sentence of hard Labour shall not be allowed to make use of the Day-rooms as heretofore, and shall be prevented as much as possible conversing during the Hours they are not at Labour; and that, for this Purpose, such Prisoners shall be conducted in Silence to their sleeping Cells, in which they shall be locked during the Time of their Meals and whilst their Labour is suspended.

That when such Prisoners take Exercise, they shall be conducted in Circles round the Yard, preserving strict Silence.

That the following Scale of Dietary for the Prisoners in the Gaol and House of Correction be adopted; viz.

For Prisoners committed to hard Labour:

Monday and Tuesday, One Pound of Bread and One Pint of Soup.
Wednesday, One Pound of Bread and Half a Pound of Meat.
Thursday and Saturday, One Pound of Bread and One Pint of Soup.
Friday, One Pound of Bread, Two Ounces of Cheese and One Pint of Soup.
Sunday, One Pound of Bread and Two Ounces of Cheese.

For Prisoners committed for Trial, and those not sentenced to hard Labour:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, One Pound of Bread and One Pint of Soup.
Friday and Sunday, One Pound of Bread and One Ounce and a Half of Cheese.
Saturday, One Pound of Bread and One Pint of Soup.

And it is ordered by the Court this present Session, that the Clerk of the Peace do submit the same to the Justices of Gaol Delivery to be held at Buckingham on the 10th July Instant, for their Subscription, agreeably to the Act of 4th Geo. 4. c. 64. s. 12.

(By the Court.) T. TINDAL.

No. 5.

Answers received to Questions sent out by the Committee of the Prison Discipline Society to the several Gaols and Houses of Correction.

(In Continuation of No. 9. of the Appendix to the First Report.)

No. 1.—Answers from Mr. J. B. Everest, Governor of Cornwall County Gaol and House of Correction, Bodmin.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Sixteen; viz. Nine in the Gaol and Seven in the House of Correction, appropriated as follows: In the Gaol, Two for Ten or more Debtors; One for Twenty-one Males charged with Felony; One for Twelve Males convicted of Felony; One for Seven Males charged with Misdemeanors; One for Fifteen Males convicted of Misdemeanors; One for Seven Females charged with Felony; One for Three Females convicted of Felony; One for Four Females charged with Misdemeanors. In the House of Correction, One for Twenty-six Males convicted of Felony; One for Seventeen Males, Vagrants; One for Fifteen Males, Misdemeanants; One for Seventeen Males, Misdemeanants; One for Eight Females convicted of Felony; One for Eight Females, Vagrants; One for Eight Females, Misdemeanants.

4th.—One hundred and seventy-eight.

5th.—One only, except Debtors, who are sometimes obliged to sleep Four in a Room, but not generally.

6th.—No Intercourse is permitted during the Hours of Labour, or in their sleeping Cells, nor at any other Time, if it can be heard; but from the Construction of the Prison it cannot be so effectually prevented as at their Labour or in their sleeping Cells.

7th.—The Turnkeys have strict Orders to report every Breach of Silence.

8th.—Yes, immediately, by being placed at the Bars, put in solitary Confinement, or deprived of a Proportion of their Food.

9th.—About Forty-eight Steps per Minute; the Height of each Step is Eight Inches.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is not at present applied to any Purpose, but Measures are in progress for attaching a Corn-mill to it; its Motion is now governed by a regulating Fly, but there is no Dial or other Means of ascertaining the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—No; but the Prisoners are not permitted to have the slightest Communication with each other, either on or off the Wheel.

12th.—Yes.

13th.—The Relays are allowed to sit or stand 'till their Turn comes to go on the Wheel; they can see the other Prisoners, but are not permitted to communicate with them.

14th.—In their respective Day-rooms.

15th.—One.

18th.—Generally daily.

19th.—If they are more than Three Days in solitary Confinement they are allowed to take Exercise for an Hour daily in the Yard adjoining their Cell.

20th.—None whatever.

21st.—Speaking generally, I should say it has.

22d.—Four Months and Twenty-three Days, for Murder, of which he was convicted and executed.

23d.—Eighteen.

24th.—Only such as are committed for Trial.

25th.—Yes, at the Discretion of the Governor, but no Limit is fixed.

26th.—Yes, at all Times.

27th.—Yes, from some local Jurisdictions, but not all.

28th.—I think not.

29th.—From the Observation I have been enabled to make of the Characters of Criminal Offenders, I should think such an Offer would not generally be acceptable to them, but I am decidedly of opinion that so laudable a Measure would receive the cordial Co-operation of the Magistracy of this County.

30th.—I think not, because there at present exists amongst the lower Classes a strong Prejudice against the Apprenticing System, which would no Doubt operate powerfully against the Success of such an Institution, and I doubt whether the Magistracy of this County would feel disposed to co-operate in such a Measure.

Observations.—With respect to offering any other Facts or Suggestions which I may deem calculated to promote generally the Improvement of Prison Discipline, I would beg to observe, that I consider the usual Discipline adopted in our Gaols and Houses of Correction insufficient to produce in Criminals that Reformation of Character which Imprisonment is designed to effect. If, therefore, a general and more strict Code of Discipline was instituted and persevered in, the best possible Effects might be anticipated. I have ever been an Advocate for the Silent System about to be introduced in the several Gaols in England and Wales; but I apprehend the Construction of most Prisons will render such a System very difficult to be carried on with Success. Much may undoubtedly be done by persevering Vigilance; but I am decidedly of Opinion that it cannot be effectually carried on without

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

entire Separation. In America, where this System is pursued without so much Success, the Construction of their Prisons affords every Facility for carrying it on; besides which, a Severity of Discipline is used which would not probably be tolerated in this Country. I am, notwithstanding, of opinion that great Benefit will result to Criminals generally by the contemplated Change in the Discipline of our Gaols.

J. B. Everest, Governor.

26th May 1835.

No. 2.—Answers of Mr. Thomas C. Neale, Governor of Chelmsford Gaol and House of Correction, and of the Gaol at Springfield, Essex.

Springfield County Gaol.

1st.—None.

2d.—None, except that Silence has been more strictly enforced than it had formerly been.

3d.—Fourteen Day-rooms, one to each Class of Prisoners.

4th.—Two hundred and eighteen Cells; there are no Debtors in the Gaol at Springfield.

5th.—One in each Cell, except when the Prison is crowded, when Three or more are confined in large Cells constructed for the Purpose.

6th.—Yes, when associated at Work on the Tread-wheel; although Silence is as strictly enforced as can be done without altering the Prison or increasing the Number of Officers. Convicted Prisoners have their Meals in their Cells, and therefore they cannot hold Intercourse. They have no Time allowed for Exercise, the Tread-wheel being deemed sufficient Exercise. They do not associate in the Day-rooms. Prisoners before Trial, Smugglers, and Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour have each unlimited Intercourse with Prisoners of their respective Classes.

7th.—A Prisoner is stationed as Yardsman in each Yard with the Prisoners to prevent Conversation, &c.; other Yardsmen overlook them from the centre Yard; and the Officers can inspect the whole Prison from the central Buildings.

8th.—Yes; close Confinement in a Cell on Bread and Water only, not exceeding Three Days.

9th.—Forty-eight Steps in a Minute, Seven and a Half Inches each Step.

10th.—Grinding Wheat, and also working Two "Flies;" the Wheels are provided with Gyrometers.

11th.—No.

12th.—Yes.

13th.—One Prisoner comes off the Wheel at every Sixth Revolution; he may either sit down or walk about when off the Wheel; he can see the other Prisoners in the same Yard when off the Wheel, but must not speak.

14th.—Prisoners before Trial, Smugglers, and Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour, in the Day-rooms. Convicted Prisoners sentenced to hard Labour in their separate Cells.

15th.—Fifty-seven.

16th.—Six Weeks in Solitude. Stealing Five Turkeys.

17th.—Generally not. Six were sentenced to hard Labour in Solitude, and worked at "Richmond's Machine," turning the Handle 1,000 Times an Hour.

18th.—Daily.

19th.—They exercise twice a Day, Two Hours at a Time, in a long Passage or Corridor in front of Six Cells; and on Sunday they are let down into the Yard, while the other Prisoners are at Chapel, about an Hour.

20th.—No.

21st.—So far beneficial as to prevent Contamination.

22d.—Seven Months and Fourteen Days. Arson; Death recorded; transported for Life.

23d.—Twenty-six.

24th.—Prisoners before Trial, Misdemeanants not sentenced to hard Labour who can maintain themselves, and Smugglers, if confined for Nonpayment of a Penalty, are allowed to purchase Food daily, or receive it from their Friends.

25th.—Under the special Order of a Magistrate, not oftener than once in Twenty-one Days; but the Magistrates generally will not grant Orders unless under extraordinary Circumstances.

26th.—Yes, whenever he pleases.

27th.—Yes, from Colchester, Harwich, Saffron Walden, Brightlingsea, Havering atte Bower, and Maldon.

28th.—Probably by a few.

29th.—Not generally acceptable to the Prisoners; but it would receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy.

30th.—Yes; and such an Institution would receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy.

Chelmsford Gaol and House of Correction.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—The Number of Day-rooms is Eleven; Six unoccupied; Four are appropriated to Female Prisoners convicted of Felony, Misdemeanors, Vagrancy, and Assaults, &c.; One for Debtors in the House (Coffee-room). The Day-rooms being of various Sizes, the Average Number to which they are appropriated is from Six to Ten.

645

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

4th.—The Number of sleeping Rooms, including those for Debtors, is Eighty-six.
5th.—The Number of Prisoners confined in One Apartment at Night is Six upon an Average.
6th.—Yes.
7th.—None.
8th.—No.
9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—Tread-wheel Labour is not adopted.
14th.—In the Day-rooms.
15th.—Eight.
16th.—The longest Period in Solitude was Two Calendar Months; stealing from the Dwelling-house.
17th.—None of the Prisoners had any Occupation in Solitude.
18th.—Daily.
19th.—Exercise in the Yard; all Day if they please.
20th.—No.
21st.—Prevented Contamination.
22d.—The longest Period in the last Year in which a Prisoner was confined before Trial was Three Months; stealing Wheat from the Sheaf; Sentence Two Calendar Months Hard Labour.
23d.—One; confined Three Months before Trial.
24th.—Yes. Debtors subsist themselves; and Prisoners before Trial are allowed to receive Food from their Friends, &c.
25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, & 30th.—Yes. See Springfield Gaol Return.

15th May 1835. THOMAS C. NEALE.

No. 3.—ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM JEFFS, Gaoler of GLOUCESTER City Gaol and House of Correction.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—One before and One after Trial for Felons; One for Debtors, and One for Females.
4th.—Thirteen sleeping Rooms and Three sick Rooms.
5th.—From Two to Six.
6th.—Not when at work; but talking cannot be prevented, constructed as the Prison is.
7th & 8th.—Locking up for One Hour or more.
9th.—Fifty Steps in a Minute; Height of Steps, Thirteen Inches.
10th.—It is not.
11th.—It is not.
12th.—Yes, by locking up.
13th.—By sitting down, or walking in Company with others.
14th.—In their Day-room.
15th & 16th.—Only One, for Fourteen Days (twice), for passing bad Money.
17th.—Nothing.
18th.—Three or Four Times a Day by the Governor, and twice a Week by the Chaplain, and also in Sickness.
19th.—They are walking about in the Yard, except when on the Wheel.
20th.—No.
21st.—They dislike it much.
22d.—One for Six Months, upon account of Sickness, for Highway Robbery, no Bill found.
23d.—None.
24th.—Yes, Debtors and Prisoners before Trial.
25th.—By Permission of Magistrates, but seldom.
26th.—Yes, but first inspected by the Governor.
27th.—No.
28th.—I cannot say; no such Offer was ever made.
29th.—I cannot say.
30th.—I cannot say.

WILLIAM JEFFS, Gaoler.

No. 4.—ANSWERS of Mr. J. KEENE, Keeper of the HEREFORD County Gaol and House of Correction.

1st.—No Alteration has taken place.
2d.—Silence more strictly observed.
3d.—Ten; Two each for the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Classes; the Number of Prisoners indefinite.
4th.—Eighty-two.
5th.—Indefinite; sometimes One, sometimes Three.
6th.—Not at work; at their Meals, and in their Day-rooms they have an Opportunity, but prevented as much as possible by Night.
7th.—Personal Attendance.
8th.—Yes; Solitary Confinement.
9th.—The Tread-wheel is not adopted in this Prison.

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th.—Seventy-nine.
16th.—Fourteen Days; refusing to Work.
17th.—No.
18th.—Sometimes Two or Three Times a Day.
19th.—At Eight A. M., and One and Six P. M.; in their Yards.
20th.—Decidedly not.
21st.—It is believed so.
22d.—Five Months; Manslaughter; Four Months.
23d.—Eight.
24th.—Not after Conviction.
25th.—Yes; once a Month, or oftener if necessary.
26th.—Yes; once a Month, or oftener if Urgencies require it.
27th.—Yes; both from the City of Hereford.
28th.—From my own Observations and Inquiries I am led to suppose that the greater Part of adult Offenders on their Discharge from Prison would not accept the Offer of a free Passage to a penal Colony.
29th.—Answered above, with respect to my Opinion of Prisoners; but I have to add my Belief that such an Arrangement would be likely to receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy.
30th.—I think the Plan more likely to be acceptable to the juvenile Offenders than to the Adults, and that it would be sanctioned by the Magistracy.

J. KEENE, Keeper.

No. 5.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN PRINGUER, Keeper of the CANTERBURY City House of Correction, Kent.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—No Day-rooms, but Two Airing-rooms, which are appropriated to all Classes, Males and Females being separate.
4th.—Seven.
5th.—One.
6th.—Yes, when taking Exercise only.
7th.—None.
8th.—No.
9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th.—There is no Tread-wheel in the House of Correction or any other Employment.
14th.—In their Cells.
15th & 16th.—None.
17th.—No.
18th.—Visited daily by the Governor, and by the Chaplain only when required.
19th.—About an Hour in the Day, and then in the Airing-room.
20th & 21st.—See Answer to No. 15.
22d.—No one committed before or after Trial.
23d.—None.
24th.—No.
25th.—Yes, by a Magistrate's Order.
26th.—No, unless by a Magistrate's Order.
27th.—No.
28th, 29th, & 30th.—Yes.

16th May 1835. (Signed) JOHN PRINGUER, Keeper.

No. 6.—ANSWERS of Mr. THOMAS AMOS, Keeper of KIRKDALE House of Correction, near Liverpool, Lancaster.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—Twenty-two; and Twenty-two different Classes; Average, 560.
4th.—334 Cells, and Seven Rooms for all the Prison.
5th.—Generally One; sometimes Three; never only Two.
6th.—Yes.
7th.—None.
8th.—No.
9th.—About Fifty; Eight Inches and a Half.
10th.—Grinding Corn; shows the Labour performed.
11th & 12th.—No.
13th.—Rest Three Minutes, and can speak to others.
14th.—In the Day-rooms.
16th.—Forty-two Days; principally Soldiers under Sentence of Court-martial.
17th.—Books only.
18th.—Times not registered; are frequently visited.
19th.—One Hour per Day in the Galleries.
20th.—None.
21st.—For a Time, yes; Permanency doubtful.
22d.—Nearly Three Months; Felony Transportation.

23d.

647

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

23d.—None.
24th.—No.
25th.—Occasionally by an Order from a Magistrate.
26th.—Yes, under the Governor's Inspection.
27th.—They are sent principally by Coaches.
28th, 29th, and 30th.—I cannot tell; no such Proposition having ever been made.

2d June 1835. THOMAS AMOS, Keeper.

No. 7.—ANSWERS of T. B. ADDISON, Esq., Visiting Justice, and of the Governor, of PRESTON County House of Correction, Lancaster.

1st.—The old Court House converted into a Chapel. A Floor put into the old Chapel, dividing it into Two Stories: the lower Part fitted up with Tables and Benches for the Male Prisoners to take their Meals; the upper Part not yet appropriated, but may probably be made a Dormitory. Some Alterations in the Day-rooms, not much affecting the general Arrangements.—*T. B. A.*

2d.—The Male Prisoners brought together for Meals, which are taken in Silence, and under Superintendence. Conversation at the Tread-mill put under a greater Degree of Restraint.—*T. B. A.*

3d.—Thirteen Day-rooms for Thirteen Classes, including One for Debtors.—*Governor.*

4th.—One hundred and seventy-three.—*Governor.*

5th.—One in each, except the Debtors, who are in a large Room.—*Governor.*

6th, 7th, & 8th.—We have not yet an absolute Prohibition of such Intercourse, but the Opportunities for it are much diminished, many of the Prisoners being separated when at work, and in the Night. Conversation restrained on the Tread-mill, and not allowed at Meals. Hitherto the Rules have been obeyed without the Necessity for any Punishment, except in Cases which might otherwise come under the Head of insubordinate or disorderly Conduct.—*T. B. A.*

9th.—In grinding Wheat, 4½ Hours, 9 on, 5 off—173 Minutes Work at 36 Steps per Minute, 9 Inches each -	4,671	Feet per Day.
In dressing, 4½ Hours, 7 on, 7 off—135 Minutes Work at 40 Steps per Minute, 9 Inches each - -	4,050	—
A full Day's Work -	8,721	Feet.

The Hours are less in Winter.—*Chaplain.*

10th.—Employed in grinding Wheat. No Register.—*Governor.*

11th & 12th.—No.—*Governor.*

14th.—The Males in one large Room, the Females in their Day-rooms.—*Governor.*

15th.—Fifty-five Soldiers sentenced by Court-martial.—*Governor.*

16th.—A Soldier, 35th Regiment, for Six Months; Offence not known.—*Governor.*

17th.—None.—*Governor.*

18th.—Occasionally.—*Governor.*

19th.—None allowed.—*Governor.*

20th.—In general emaciated and pale, and when brought out to the Light and open Air they staggered like drunken Men.—*Governor.*

21st.—In general I believe it has.—*Governor.*

22d.—105 Days on Charge of Felony; Sentence Two Months.—*Governor.*

23th.—Fourteen; all received after Grand Jury discharged.—*Governor.*

24th.—Prisoners before Trial at the Discretion of the Governor.—*Governor.*

25th.—Every Three Calendar Months.—*Governor.*

26th.—Occasionally, which are invariably examined by the Officers.—*Governor.*

27th.—The Borough Magistrates in this District commit their Prisoners to the County Gaol and House of Correction.—*T. B. A.*

28th.—In my Opinion, not many.—*Governor.*

28th, 29th, & 30th.—I am afraid that many would reject Offers of this Kind, though really for their Good, from an Idea that they were subjecting themselves to an additional Punishment; but it might be desirable to enforce Emigration or a mitigated Banishment more extensively than is now done, either as Part of the Sentence, or by way of Commutation.—*T. B. A.*

Preston, 29th May 1835.

To the Governor's Answers, above copied out, I have added some, which I have marked with my Initials.

What is called the Silent System, or rather the mental Discipline, moral Restraint and regular Habits accompanying it, seems well calculated to produce all the Benefit which Imprisonment can afford, at the least Expense of Suffering.

But I do not look to Imprisonment superseding all other Punishments. Transportation removes bad Characters from amongst us, and has great Effect in the way of Example. I do not think that its extensive Application can, for the present at least, be dispensed with.

I understand that Regulations have been made for increasing the Severity of it, but little Effect can be produced upon the ill-disposed here by aggravating Misery which they do not witness and seldom think of.

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

I should prefer an universal Removal of such Convicts from the Country, carrying into certain and notorious Effect that Separation from Home and Associates which is the most exemplary Part of the Sentence, but separating them into Classes according to the Degrees of Guilt.

In less aggravated Cases, the Removal to be accompanied with no further Coercion or Hardship, but to be preceded by Six Months hard Labour in Prison.

The Distance and Expense of Removal might be diminished, but Attempts at Escape to ensure the more severe Treatment.

If an Experiment of this Kind were made, it would be necessary to give Power for enforcing hard Labour upon Transports not merely in the County Gaol, or, after Removal from thence, in the House of Correction, which I believe are the Cases now provided for by Law, but likewise as to those who remain in the House of Correction without Removal to the County Gaol, as is the Case in Lancashire.

This is more deserving of Attention, as the Interval between Sentence and Removal is now passed without Employment, and often in scandalous Disorder and Riot.

T. B. Addison, Visiting Justice.

No. 8.—Answers of Mr. John Allen, Governor of Leicester County House of Correction.

1st.—No Alteration took place in the Construction of this Prison in the Year 1834.

2d.—No Change has occurred in the Discipline of the Prison during the same Period.

3d.—There are Thirteen Day-rooms; (Classes of Prisoners) convicted Felons, Misdemeanors, Vagrants, and those for refusing Sureties. Eight is about the Average Number of Prisoners to each Day-room.

4th.—There are Forty-four sleeping Cells. No Debtors.

5th.—One or Three Male Prisoners are confined in One Apartment at Night.

6th.—The Prisoners do hold Intercourse with each other when associated at work, taking Exercise, in their Day-rooms, and in their Night Apartments when more than One are confined in a Cell.

7th.—As far as the confined Nature of the House of Correction will admit, Conversation is prevented.

8th.—The Act of one Prisoner speaking to another (when at work) is visited by Punishment. The Description of Punishment is solitary Confinement in a dark Cell, kept on Bread and Water.

9th.—The Tread-wheel Labour is adopted; the Number of Steps usually taken is from Forty-eight to Fifty-two per Minute; the Height of each Step is Seven Inches and a Half.

10th.—The Power of the Tread-wheel is applied to grinding Wheat. The Machinery is not provided with any Means of regulating and exhibiting the actual Amount of Labour performed.

11th.—The Tread-wheel is not fitted up with separate Compartments; the Prisoners can see and communicate with each other when on the Wheel.

12th.—The Act of a Prisoner looking back when on the Wheel (if repeated) is punished as an Offence.

13th.—A Prisoner after working Twelve Minutes rests Five Minutes. Seats are erected opposite the Tread-wheels, where the Prisoner who comes off the Wheel rests, and when resting he can see the other Prisoners.

14th.—The Prisoners take their Meals in the Day-rooms.

15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—In consequence of the confined Nature of the House of Correction, the Prisoners sentenced to solitary Confinement in the last Year were committed to the Common Gaol of the County.

22d & 23d.—Prisoners for Trial are committed to the Common Gaol of the County.

24th.—A Prisoner is not allowed to receive Food of any Kind beyond the Prison Ration.

25th.—A convicted Prisoner is allowed to receive Visits from his Friends,—from his near Relatives, once every Fortnight; and from other Friends when Permission is obtained from the Visiting Justices.

26th.—A convicted Prisoner is allowed to write to or receive Letters from his Friends at any Time, after approved of by the Governor or Turnkey.

27th.—Prisoners are committed to the County Gaol and House of Correction from those Parts of the Town of Leicester called the Bishop's Fee and South Fields, which contribute to the County Rate, and over which the Borough Magistrates have a concurrent Jurisdiction with those of the County.

28th.—I am of opinion the Offer would not be accepted by adult Offenders upon their Discharge from Prison.

29th.—I am of opinion such a Measure would not be acceptable generally to the Prisoners.

30th.—I am of opinion such an Institution would not be acceptable (generally) to them, and their Parents or Friends.

John Allen, Governor.

14th May 1835.

640

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

No. 9.—Answers of Mr. Thomas Drury, Gaoler of Lincoln City Gaol and House of Correction.

1st & 2d.—None.

3d.—Seven Day Rooms; and the Classes are, Debtors, Prisoners for Trial, Prisoners convicted, Vagrants, and Misdemeanors, separating in each Class the Males from the Females. The Rooms are capable of holding more than have ever been committed, namely, Ten in each Class.

4th.—Thirteen.

5th.—Two Rooms, Five Prisoners each; all the rest Two each.

6th.—They have free Intercourse with each other, at work, at their Meals, in taking Exercise, in their Day-rooms, and in the Night Apartments.

7th.—None; nor are any practicable as the Prison is constructed.

8th.—Their speaking is not considered an Offence, or visited with Punishment.

9th.—Tread-wheel Labour is adopted; the Number of Steps usually taken in a Minute are about Fifty-four, and the Height of each Step is Eight Inches.

10th.—There is no Application of the Power, but there is a Machine regulating and exhibiting the Number of Revolutions performed by the Wheel.

11th & 12th.—No.

13th.—He sits on a Bench in the Tread-wheel Room, in sight of and seeing those at work.

14th.—In their Day-rooms.

15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, & 21st.—None.

22d.—Eleven Weeks. Simple Larceny. Guilty. Three Months Hard Labour.

23d.—None.

24th.—Yes.

25th.—Yes, Twice a Week; but such Visitors are not permitted to bring in any thing but Linen and Clothes.

26th.—Yes; they write and receive Letters without Limit, subject in each Case to the Inspection of the Gaoler.

27th.—Does not apply to Lincoln, which is a County of itself.

28th.—Not, I think, in many Instances.

29th.—Such an Institution would receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy, but I think it would not be generally acceptable to discharged Prisoners, unless the Chances of profligate Indolence were represented to them to be greater abroad than at home.

30th.—It would, I conceive, receive the Co-operation of the Magistracy; but juvenile Offenders would generally be influenced by the Opinions and Advice of their Parents and Friends, and these, particularly Parents, would seldom consent to the Emigration.

Lincoln, 30th May 1835. Thomas Drury, Gaoler.

No. 10.—Answers of Mr. T. King, Keeper of Spalding House of Correction, Lincolnshire.

1st & 2d.—Not any.

3d.—Thirteen Day-rooms. First, Prisoners convicted of Felony; Second, Prisoners convicted of Misdemeanor; Third, Prisoners committed on Charge of Felony; Fourth, Prisoners committed on Charge of Misdemeanor; Fifth, Prisoners committed for further Examination; Sixth, Vagrants; Seventh, Debtors.

4th.—Fifty-two.

5th.—Forty-eight sleeping Cells, which are calculated only for One Prisoner; and Four Rooms of larger Dimensions, in which, when used, One, Three, or Five, are lodged.

6th.—They do.

7th.—Not any.

8th.—No.

9th.—Tread-wheel Labour is adopted, the Standard of which is Forty-eight Steps in a Minute; each Step rises Seven Inches.

10th.—A Flour Mill is worked by the Tread-wheel; the Time is kept by the Seconds Movement of a Dial; there are Twenty-four Steps on the Wheel, by which a Bell is rung on each Revolution.

11th & 12th.—No.

13th.—In the Event of Fifteen Men being put to work in One Yard, Two Thirds would be the Proportion on the Wheel; the remaining Five would take their Turn; as one gets off every Three Minutes on the Left, one ascends the Wheel on the Right; each Man remains Thirty Minutes on the Wheel, and rests Fifteen Minutes when off: can see and converse with each other.

14th.—In the Day-rooms.

15th.—Twelve.

16th.—One Month solitary Confinement. Feloniously stealing a live Pig.

17th.—No.

18th.—By the Governor twice each Day. The Chaplain attends to do Duty twice on Sunday.

19th.—From Five to Six Hours each Day; Exercise in the Airing-courts.

20th.—Not any.

21st.—Solitary Confinement for Offences committed within the Prison (with very few Exceptions) produces the desired Effect. I have had Men committed a Second Time, who, in the first instance, were placed in solitary Confinement, agreeably to Sentence.

No. 5. Answers to Questions of the Prison Discipline Society.

22d.—Fourteen Weeks before Trial; Sentence, Three Calendar Months; feloniously stealing Jewellery.
23d.—Four.
24th.—Yes. Debtors only.
25th.—Yes; on the Party producing an Order from a Visiting Magistrate.
26th.—Both, without Restriction.
27th.—Prisoners committed to take their Trial at the Assizes holden at Lincoln are conveyed to the County Gaol by the Governor.
28th.—I think the Offer would be gladly embraced.
29th.—I have no Doubt such a Measure would be acceptable to Prisoners. How far the Magistrates might feel disposed to facilitate the Object of the Institution I cannot say.
30th.—Juvenile Offenders, destitute of Friends, have seldom occurred in this Prison.

I am decidedly of opinion that the most effectual Prison Discipline, and one that would tend to check the Increase of Crime, is Silence and Solitude, with Tread-wheel Labour when available, abolishing the present System of Assemblage in Day-rooms for all convicted Prisoners. No Fire admitted, but sufficient warm Air when found requisite, with One Standard for Diet throughout the Kingdom, and that sufficiently nutritious to enable a discharged Prisoner at once to resume his customary Labour. I feel quite certain that Prisoners would prefer a Sentence of Transportation to that of Six Months Imprisonment under some such Regulation and Restriction.

THOMAS KING, Keeper.

No. 11.—ANSWERS of Mr. W. E. HARDY, Keeper of ILCHESTER County Gaol, Somerset.

1st & 2d.—None.
3d.—Ten Day-rooms; Transports, Fines, Debtors, and Prisoners before Trial.
4th.—Sixty-seven.
5th.—Either One, Three, or more.
6th.—Yes.
7th.—None at present.
8th.—No.
9th.—No Tread-mill at this Gaol.
14th.—In their Day-rooms.
15th.—Nine.
16th.—Two Weeks; Felony.
17th.—None.
18th.—By the Governor when not on Duty; the Chaplain very seldom.
19th.—No Exercise allowed during the Period of solitary Confinement.
20th.—None that I am aware of.
21st.—I certainly think it has.
22d.—Ninety Days for stealing Shoes; guilty; and imprisoned Three Calendar Months.
23d.—Nine.
24th.—No.
25th.—Once or Twice in a Week if well behaved.
26th.—No particular stated Times, but are all inspected before sent.
27th.—I believe not.
28th.—In some Cases I have no Doubt.
29th.—No Doubt it would.
30th.—I have no Doubt it would.

W. E. HARDY, Keeper.

No. 12.—ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN ORRIDGE, Governor of BURY ST. EDMOND'S County Gaol and House of Correction, Suffolk.

1st.—None.
2d.—No Visitors allowed to the Convicted until after the Expiration of Three Months from the Time of Conviction; silent Order preserved; walking in single Files round the Yard when at Exercise.
3d.—Fourteen Day-rooms; but those for convicted Prisoners ot now used; they are large Rooms; the Number to which they are appropriated depends upon the Numbers in Custody on Charges, &c.
4th.—One hundred and forty.
5th.—They are slept singly when they can; but when the Numbers in Custody are large there have been Six slept in the large Cells.
6th.—When at work an Officer attends topreserve silent Order; and when in their Cells no Noise permitted.
7th.—The Officers reporting Offenders against silent Order.
8th.—No specific Rules to this Effect have yet been confirmed.
9th.—From Forty-eight to Fifty; the Height of the Steps Five Inches.
10th.—The Mill let to a Miller, who pays Sixpence a Bushel for grinding and dressing Wheat. There is no Machinery to ascertain the exact Amount of Labour, and indeed a slight Variation will sometimes take place, arising from the State of the Grain, as well as from Numbers and other Causes.

11th.

11th.—It is not; and if it were we could not employ so many Persons within the same Space. Contamination is prevented by the Officer's Attendance upon them.

12th.—All are admonished for Irregularities; but this has not been treated as a specific Offence.

13th.—There are Seats; he can see the other Prisoners. The Schoolmaster attends them in the Intervals of Labour, when off the Wheel.

14th.—The convicted Prisoners in their separate sleeping Cells.

15th.—Nineteen.

16th.—Six Weeks. Larceny after a previous Conviction.

17th.—No; they were all Labourers in Husbandry.

18th.—Governor daily; Chaplain very frequently.

19th.—About an Hour in the Day, either in Passages or an empty Yard.

20th.—None.

21st.—Irksome to all, but much more severely felt by an active Mind than a Sluggard.

22d.—Eleven Weeks; his Offence Felony; found guilty; sentenced to Six Months Imprisonment; the Period of his Imprisonment before Trial having been taken into consideration, and observed upon in passing Sentence.

23d.—None.

24th.—Yes. Prisoners before Trial may purchase Articles of plain Food once a Week, but no Beer, Spirits, or Wine. Convicted Prisoners, after having been Three Months convicted, if thought to be requisite, may purchase One Quartern Loaf a Week, but nothing else.

25th.—Not until after the Expiration of Three Months from the Time of his Conviction, and then once a Month.

26th.—Not until after the Expiration of Three Months from the Time of his Conviction, and then once a Month.

27th.—They are received here, by Agreement, from the Local Jurisdiction of the Borough of Bury St. Edmond's, both before and after Trial.

28th, 29th, & 30th.—I have submitted these Questions to the Visiting Justices, and am instructed to say, that it is their Opinion the Magistracy in general would cheerfully co-operate to effect these desirable Measures as far as lay in their Power; but that it is also their Opinion, that the Measure, though voluntary, and intended to benefit the Individual, would be considered as Banishment from their Country, and the Offer in consequence very rarely accepted after a Term of Imprisonment had expired; but that if it could be offered in any Way as a Commutation of Imprisonment, then it would be frequently accepted, and especially by the unemployed Labourers who are single Men, and so much out of Employ. With regard to the further Improvement of Prison Discipline, I have long thought that the Rules and Regulations should be general throughout the Kingdom, and embrace particularly the following desirable Objects:—Separation by separate sleeping Cells; silent Order to prevent Contamination; Moral Instruction; Employment under certain Restrictions; a given Number of solitary and refractory Cells, agreeable to the Numbers the Gaol is calculated to contain. To produce a Dread of Confinement it must be felt to be irksome, and therefore Visitors or Letters to the Convicted should be very seldom, except in extreme Cases. The Dietary is now different in almost every Prison. Ought it not to be assimilated to that of the Peasantry of the Country, (sufficient to preserve Health,) but not to exceed it either in Quality or Quantity?

JOHN ORRIDGE, Governor.

No. 6.

LIST of INSANE PERSONS confined in the several Prisons included in the Gaol Act (4 G. 4. C. 64.), according to the Returns made at Michaelmas 1834.*

Prisons.	Number of Insane Persons.	Crime, &c.	Date of Commitment.	Period of Imprisonment. Yrs.	Mths.
Anglesea County Gaol -	One Male -	Debtor - -	July 1818 - -	16	0
Berks — Reading County Gaol - - -	Ditto -	Theft - - -	April 1834 - -	0	6
Bucks — Aylesbury County Gaol - - -	Ditto -	Murder - -	January 1825 -	9	9
	Ditto -	Malicious Shooting -	Summer Assize 1828	6	0
Devon — Exeter County House of Correction -	Ditto -	Dangerous - -	January 1819 -	15	9
	Ditto -	Ditto - -	August 1819 - -	15	0
	Ditto -	Ditto - -	December 1828 -	6	0
Essex — Springfield County Gaol - - -	Ditto -	Rape - - -	March 1834 - -	0	6

* This Statement does not include the Prisons belonging to Corporate and Local Jurisdictions, the Returns of which (according to Schedule in Act 5 G. 4. c. 85.) have not been printed since the Year 1829.

No. 6.
List of Insane Persons confined in Prisons included in Gaol Act.

Prisons.	Number of Insane Persons.	Crime, &c.	Date of Commitment.	Period of Imprisonment. Yrs.	Mths.
Hereford County Gaol	One Female	Arson	Summer Assize 1834	—	
Huntingdon County Gaol	One Male	Murder	Lent Assize 1823	11	6
Kent — Maidstone County Gaol	Ditto	Ditto	July 1834	0	2
Leicester County Gaol	One Female	Ditto	June 1834	0	3
Middlesex — Cold Bath Fields County House of Correction	One Male	Larceny	May 1834	0	5
	Ditto	Ditto	June 1834	0	4
Westminster City Gaol, &c.	One Female	Ditto	July 1834	0	3
City of London — Newgate Gaol	One Male	Cutting and Maiming	September 1830	4	0
	Ditto	Shooting at, &c.	January 1831	3	9
	Ditto	Ditto	March 1833	1	6
	Ditto	Stabbing	July 1833	1	2
	Ditto	Larceny	October 1834	—	
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	—	
Monmouth County Gaol	One Female	Murder	Summer Assize	0	6
Northampton County Gaol	One Male	Arson	February 1832	[illegible]	6
Northumberland — Morpeth County Gaol	Ditto	Malicious Shooting	May 1828	6	4
	Ditto	Felony	February 1832	2	6
Nottingham County Gaol	One Female	Murder	[illegible]	1	0
Pembroke County Gaol	One Male	Unruly when at large	[illegible]	24	0
Somerset — Ilchester County Gaol	One Female	Murder	August 1828	6	0
	One Male	Ditto	September 1830	4	0
	One Female	Ditto	August 1832	2	0
	One Male	Cutting and Wounding	Ditto	2	0
Stafford County Gaol	Ditto	Sheep-stealing	July 1834	—	
Surrey County Gaol	Ditto	Want of Sureties	September 1834	—	
Warwick County Gaol	Ditto	Murder	Summer Assize 1827	7	0
Westmorland — Appleby County Gaol	Ditto	Ditto	[illegible]	12	10
	One Female	Cutting and Maiming	[illegible]	7	0
York County Gaol	One Male	Murder	December 1832	1	9
	Ditto	Cutting and Stabbing	October 1830	4	0
Wakefield County House of Correction	Ditto	Assault to Rape	May 1834	0	5

No. 7.

No. 7.
Letter from Mr. G. Poynder to the Earl of Brecknock, inclosing a List of the Persons admitted into the Kent Lunatic Asylum.

Letter from Mr. G. Poynder to the Earl of Brecknock, inclosing a List of the Persons admitted into the Kent Lunatic Asylum.

Kent Lunatic Asylum,
25th May 1835.

My Lord,

I had the Honour to receive your Lordship's Letter of the 22d Instant, in reply to which I beg leave to state that Thirteen Criminal Lunatics have been admitted into this Asylum since its Opening in January 1833, One of whom is dead. The annexed List will give, in a Tabular Form, the Information you desire. In all Cases where Orders have been given for the Weekly Maintenance of Criminal Lunatics, they have been made by the Secretary of State, and not by the Magistrates.

We have not yet been able to learn positively whether Parishes are liable for the Maintenance of Persons convicted of Offences and becoming insane during Imprisonment. The 55th Clause of the Lunatic Act is silent on the Subject of the Payment of such Cases. We have a Case of this Kind in the Asylum, belonging to the Parish of Tenterden. I have sent the Bill in regularly to the Parish, which is now Four Quarters in Arrears, but the Parish disputes the Payment (although an Order has been made upon the Parish by the Secretary of State) on the Ground that it is not liable for the Maintenance of a convicted Person. I am inclined to think the Parish is right, for as the County, and not the Parish, would have defrayed the Expense of the Criminal's Maintenance during his Imprisonment if he had remained sane, I do no not see why his becoming insane should render the Parish liable.

The Parish Officers suggest that Counsel's Opinion should be taken upon the Subject, and the Expense of such Opinion be met by the Asylum and the Parish together; and here the Matter rests at present.

I have the Honour to be,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's obedient humble Servant,
G. Poynder.

The Earl of Brecknock, &c. &c.

053

List of Persons admitted into the Kent Lunatic Asylum.

No. 7. Letter from Mr. G. Poynder to the Earl of Brecknock, inclosing a List of the Persons admitted into the Kent Lunatic Asylum.

Persons tried, but acquitted on the Ground of being insane at the Time of committing the Offence.	Persons charged with Offences, but unable to take their Trial, being upon Arraignment found insane.	Persons convicted of Offences, and becoming insane during Imprisonment.	By whose Order sent.	By whom paid.
Elizabeth Brown -	- - -	- - -	His Majesty's -	The County.
James Ward -	- - -	- - -	Ditto -	Ditto.
Francis Colegate -	- - -	- - -	Ditto -	Parish of Ryarsh.
Charles Hart -	- - -	- - -	Ditto -	Parish of Greenwich.
Charles Spice -	- - -	- - -	Ditto -	Parish of Ashford.
Sarah Usborne -	- - -	- - -	Ditto -	Parish of Chatham.
Robert Harran -	- - -	- - -	Ditto -	Ditto Ditto.
	Francis Bush -	- - -	Ditto -	Parish not yet known.
	Benjamin Dutton	- - -	Ditto -	County.
	William French -	- - -	Ditto -	Parish of Chatham.
		William Courtenay	Secretary of State's	County.
		Rosanna Divine -	Ditto -	Ditto.
		William Swadling	Ditto -	Not yet determined.

No. 8.

No. 8. Account of Inspectors General of Prisons in Ireland, showing Difference in Expense of employed and unemployed Prisoners.

Account of the Inspectors General of Prisons in Ireland, showing the Difference of Expense of keeping Prisoners employed and unemployed.

Dublin, 28th February 1835.

The Inspectors General of Prisons think it may be an Encouragement to the Introduction of the most active System of Industry and Discipline into Gaols, which have not already been regulated on such Principle, to show from their Official Returns that the best Class of County Gaols are conducted on the most economical Principles. They have in their Thirteenth Report separated the Gaols of Ireland into Three Classes; and added an Account of the Annual Cost per Head of Prisoners, each including the Total Expense, Diet, Salaries, Repairs, &c.

	Average Cost per Man annually.
1st Class.—Prisons in which the whole System prescribed by Law is carried into Effect, Manufactures, &c. introduced - -	£13 19 0
2d Class.—Prisons in which it is partially carried on - -	17 14 0
3d Class.—Prisons in which the Prisoners are unemployed, and no Exertion making to advance beyond an inactive State of Order and Cleanliness - - - - -	18 19 0
Average Cost per Head in 1825, when the First detailed Account of Expenditure was reported (see Fourth Report) - -	20 0 0
Average Cost of the Three Classes, 1834, per Man - -	16 14 0
Saving per Annum on 4,158 Persons confined each Day, in 1834, between the Average Cost, 16*l.* 14*s.*, and the Cost in 1825, 20*l.* per Head - - - - - -	13,721 0 0
Saving per Annum which would appear if all the Prisons were now conducted as economically as those in Class No. 1, viz. at 13*l.* 19*s.* per Head - - - - -	25,156 0 0

N.B. In calculating the Cost per Head in the Three Classes of Prisons, no Credit is taken in Class 1 for Profit on Works, which strengthens the Principle contended for, that Prisons are economical in direct Proportion as they are good.

No. 9.

No. 9. Extracts from Report of Visiting Justices of Cold Bath Fields House of Correction, April Session 1835.

Extracts from the Report of the Visiting Justices of the House of Correction for Middlesex, Cold Bath Fields, made in April Session 1835.

Middlesex.—At the General Quarter Session of the Peace of our Lord the King, holden in and for the County of Middlesex, at the Sessions House for the said County, (by Adjournment,) on Thursday the 30th Day of April, in the Fifth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord William the Fourth, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith.—Before Benjamin Rotch the younger, James Morgan Strachan, Esquires, and others their Fellows, Justices of our said Lord the King, assigned to keep the Peace in the County aforesaid, and also to hear and determine divers Felonies, Trespasses, and other Misdemeanors committed in the same County.

No. 9. Extracts from Report of Visiting Justices of Cold Bath Fields House of Correction, April Session 1835.

Extract from the Report of the Visiting Justices.

The Attention of the Visiting Justices having been called by one of their own Board, and from other Sources of Information, to an improved Practice of Prison Discipline introduced into the Houses of Correction at Wakefield and Glasgow, they directed the Governor to visit those Places of Confinement, and report upon its Applicability to the Middlesex House of Correction. They now annex the Report made to them by the Governor, and have the Satisfaction of informing the Court, that, in accordance with his Suggestions, the Silence contemplated in the Regulations, which have received the Sanction of the Judges, has been more effectually enforced than heretofore, and been attended with the most beneficial Effects, not only in maintaining strict Order throughout the Prison, but obviously in preventing the contaminating Effects of Intercourse. They beg leave to suggest, that the strict Observance of Silence, whilst highly beneficial to the Prisoner, renders the Punishment of Imprisonment more severe, and consequently that in future Sentences the Term of the Confinement may be shortened without impairing the Ends of Justice, and to the manifest Advantage of the County. The Alterations necessary to accomplish the Object of maintaining Silence have been attended with little Expense, as all the Labour has been done by Prisoners.

The Special Report of the Governor.

In compliance with the Directions of the Visiting Magistrates, of the 12th ult., the Governor proceeded to Wakefield and thence to Glasgow, in order to observe the different Modes of Prison Discipline adopted in those Places. The Letter of J. M. Strachan, Esq., a Visiting Magistrate for Middlesex, to J. Armitage, Esq., an active Magistrate of Wakefield and the Neighbourhood, and others, acquired through the Kindness of Samuel Hoare, Esq., to the Keepers of the Prisons at Wakefield and Glasgow, procured for the Governor every Facility to prosecute his Inquiries; and he is bound to acknowledge the marked Attention which he received in both Places. The Numbers imprisoned at Wakefield, and more especially at Cold Bath Fields House of Correction, would alone, in the present State of the Buildings, prevent the Adoption of the Glasgow System, which the Governor considers by far the most efficient, both as regards Punishment and Moral Improvement; but the Prison of Wakefield having been the first inspected, he will first proceed in reporting the Observations he made there. The Object in view is the utter Prevention of Contamination, even where Numbers are congregated, by the Enforcement of Silence Day and Night, together with the industrious Pursuit of such Works as are adapted to the Place; and these Objects appear to be as perfectly accomplished as can possibly be expected where separate Confinement is impracticable. From Morning 'till Night the Prisoners are under Inspection and Control, and are never for a Moment left to themselves. Wardsmen, carefully selected from the best-conducted amongst the Prisoners, continually overlook those at work; and the Facilities for Inspection by the Governor, Taskmasters, and Turnkeys at uncertain Periods, from Places expressly constructed for the Purpose, easily effect the well working of the System. One Room, containing 150 Prisoners employed in picking Wool, &c., is kept in Order by One, or at most Two Wardsmen; and where it is necessary to have smaller Classes, as Tailors, Shoemakers, Weavers, &c., a Wardsman to each, and an equal Regard to Facility of Inspection, insure the same Observance of Silence. The Prisoners rise in the Morning at Half past Five o'Clock in the Summer, and in the Winter at a Quarter before Eight o'Clock; they leave their Cells in single Files, and proceed to wash, and are afterwards, in the same Order, conducted to Chapel, Officers or Wardsmen being stationed at regular Intervals to see that good Order and Silence are maintained. On their Return they muster in Three Yards, in parallel Lines, at Distances sufficient to prevent Conversation, no one Prisoner facing another; thence they move on to Rooms exclusively used for Meals, each furnished with Three Rows of Tables, just sufficiently wide for the Messes of the Prisoners to stand upon; every Man at a given Signal takes his Seat opposite a Mess, Grace is said, and the Meal is eaten. Although moving and assembled in Numbers, by this Attention to Non-intercourse there can be no Barter of Provisions, (found to be so mischievous where Prisoners are restricted to a given Quantity of Diet,) nor at any Time of the Day can there be any joint Machination against the good Order or Security of the Prison. From their Meals they are as regularly moved on to the respective Work-rooms, where industrious Occupations in Silence are pursued through the Day, with an Interval of One Hour for Dinner and Exercise; the latter is taken in single Files; but those who prefer to sit during this Period of Leisure must equally, as at other Times, observe Silence. At Six o'Clock in the Evening they give over Work and proceed to Supper, and thence in the same good Order to Bed. The Mode of sleeping is either singly in Cells, of which, on the Male Side, there are 295; but those being insufficient, instead of accommodating Numbers by placing Three or Five Prisoners in a Cell, large Rooms have been fitted up, each containing Thirty Berths in Three Tiers, each Berth distinctly separated from the other as on board of Ships, and opposite to these sleep Four Wardsmen, whose Duty it is in Turns to preserve Order through the Night, and that Object is, with rare Exceptions, effected, by the Rooms being lighted, and the Turnkey on Night Duty having the same Means of Inspection as into the Work-rooms by Day. The Discipline of the Prison is enforced by solitary Confinement, on Bread and Water, for gross or repeated Misconduct; and for Breach of Silence, by the Stoppage of One Meal (Supper). The Number of Punishments amongst nearly 400 Male Prisoners being on an Average Four Lockings-up and Twenty Suppers

655

No. 9. Extracts from Report of Visiting Justices of Cold Bath Fields House of Correction, April Session 1835.

stopped daily. The Rules to sanction the System have been drawn up as directed by the 4th of Geo. 4. Cap. 64., and approved and signed by the Judges of Assize. The Advantages of this System are manifest: the Contamination arising from vicious Association is effectually checked; swearing, gross Language, disputing, and Blows, which before so largely prevailed, give place to Peace and good Order; and a Book has been kept by Mr. Armitage, the Magistrate, in which, in answer to certain Questions put to various Prisoners at the Moment of their Discharge, ample Testimony is borne to the Moral Value of the System. The aged and those imprisoned for First Offences express, in their own Terms, Gratitude for the Protection against Violence, Blasphemy, and Obscenity; while the known Thieves denounce the new Plan, and express their Preference to the former, *i. e.* free Indulgence in Broils and loose Conversation. The Governor was also informed by Mr. Sheppard, the Keeper of the Prison, that, making due Allowance for the public Anxiety that a Change from Disorder to utter Silence should not be effected by Cruelty, it was thought desirable to admit all respectable Persons who applied for Permission to see the working of the new System; and all who have beheld it have expressed the utmost Satisfaction at this Combination of Punishment with Moral Improvement, or at least with Exemption from further Contamination.

At Cold Bath Fields Silence has for a long Time been the Rule, and, as far as practicable, enforced; but where so many small Bodies of Men of different Classes, off the Tread-wheels, scattered through the numerous small Wards which the Building contains, were working, it was hardly possible to have it effectually preserved, while the paid Officers to superintend them have been by the Multiplication of Wards necessarily increased. Since his Return the Governor has, however, assembled the Prisoners in larger Bodies, paying due Respect to Classification, and the good Order during the Day is consequently much improved; while by increasing the Monitors over those on the Wheels, an equal Advantage is also there observable. It is contended at Wakefield, that where all evil Communication is prevented, there can be no Objection to Prisoners of various Classes working in one Room, since the Object of the Legislature was to prevent a better Class of Persons from being shocked or demoralized by the degrading Conversation and Habits of the more vicious.

At the Bridewell at Glasgow separate Confinement is almost general; the Average Number of Prisoners is 320, and there are 285 Cells; wherever, therefore, they are compelled to associate, it is considered the lesser Evil to put known bad Characters together, rather than to diminish the Dread of Prison or to extend Contamination to those imprisoned for a First Offence. The Prisoners, thus secluded, work at various Trades, principally weaving, which it appears can be taught in Two Days, although a Month must usually elapse before the Work can be adroitly performed. The Cells are spacious, the smallest being Nine Feet by Seven Feet, and contain each a Loom or Spinning-wheel. Prisoners who are committed for very short Terms are set to pick Wool or Oakum, and the Labour of the Prisoners generally very nearly maintains the Prison. It is the Rule to estimate the Cost of each Prisoner at 8*d.* per Day, and whatever he can earn beyond that Sum is carried to his Account, and paid to him on his Discharge. But although there are Instances of some Prisoners receiving a very considerable Sum for Earnings (principally amongst Adepts at the rarer Handicrafts), there are, it appears, but few comparatively who acquire for themselves any thing at all. The whole Amount of Money so distributed last Year amongst 320 Prisoners was 116*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, or an Average of 7*s.* 3*d.* to each for the whole Year's Work. Although the Diet is spare, the Prisoners generally maintain their Health and Strength to the last. Those who cannot work at Trades, and Soldiers sentenced by Courts-martial, who are forbidden to do so, feel the Punishment most keenly. In company with Mr. Brebner, the Governor of the Bridewell, and with the Chaplain, your Governor made personal Inquiries of nearly Thirty Soldiers confined for Military Offences, and they all expressed the utmost Horror of this separate Confinement, nay, Two Thirds of them unhesitatingly gave the Preference to Corporal Punishment; and when asked, as they were in each Case on so expressing themselves, what Number of Lashes they would undertake to receive in lieu of separate Imprisonment, most of them answered 100 for every One Month's Confinement. One Man said he would rather receive 800 Lashes than suffer Six Months, and another affirmed he would willingly take 500 to be rid of Two Months Imprisonment. When once admitted into the Prison, no Prisoner convicted for the First Time has Communication with another Prisoner, except to be at first instructed in his Trade; he only leaves his Cell for the Purpose of Exercise in a long Gallery, and each Cell being protected by Double Doors, there is no Possibility of clandestine Communication. There is no Public Service in Chapel; the Chaplain is required to attend Four Hours daily, and he exhorts and instructs the Prisoners individually in their Cells. The superior Advantages of this System are decisive: further Demoralization becomes absolutely impossible; Attention to Work, Reading, and Reflection are the sole Resources, and a Love of Industry grows with Habit. This is decidedly the Opinion of Mr. Brebner, who is so deservedly respected for his Intelligence and Zeal in the Discharge of his Duties. Under his Superintendence the System has been introduced and perfected; and he asserts that 800 Instances have annually occurred of Prisoners imprisoned for First Offences leaving the Prison not to return; and that numerous Instances are observable of Persons earning industrious Livelihoods as Weavers, who were taught in the Bridewell. In so populous a City as Glasgow, there are, as in London, vast Numbers of Persons habitually living by Crime. Such Classes reside in the vilest Haunts, become devoted to Drink, and sink into irrecoverable Vice; while they frequently return to

No. 9. Extracts from Report of Visiting Justices of Cold Bath Fields House of Correction, April Session 1835.

the Prison, principally under summary Convictions; they dread its Discipline, and enter the Walls dejected or in Tears; but against such (and the Number is annually increasing) Mr. Brebner considers Transportation as the only effectual Relief.

The Governor begs to subjoin various Particulars in detail for the Information of the Visiting Magistrates, and also some Suggestions as to the Alterations necessary to carry into effect the Wakefield System, which, from the Causes before noticed, is alone, of the Two, applicable at present to this Prison.

G. L. Chesterton, Governor.

No. 10. Dietary of French and Spanish Prisoners of War in Health.

No. 10.

Dietary of French and Spanish Prisoners of War in Health.

Daily Ration to French Prisoners of War in Health.

One Pound and a Half of Bread, Half a Pound of fresh Beef, a Quarter of a Pint of Pease, One Third of an Ounce of Salt.

Ration to Spanish Prisoners in Health.

On Sunday, — Tuesday, — Thursday,	One Quart of Beer, One Pound and a Half of Bread, Three Quarters of a Pound of fresh Beef, Half a Pint of Pease, and One Third of an Ounce of Salt.
— Monday, — Wednesday, — Saturday,	One Quart of Beer, One Pound and a Half of Bread, Three Quarters of a Pound of fresh Beef, and One Third of an Ounce of Salt.
— Friday,	One Quart of Beer, One Pound and a Half of Bread, Four Ounces of Butter or Six Ounces of Cheese, Half a Pint of Pease, and One Third of an Ounce of Salt.

No. 11. Number of Prisoners in condemned Cells in Newgate.

No. 11.

A Return of the Number of Prisoners in the condemned Yard and Cells in His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate, on the 1st of June, under Sentence of Death.

Twenty-five Men.

Wm. Wadham Cope,
Keeper.

Newgate, 26th June 1835.

No. 12. Report of Gaol Committee, Reading, Berks.

No. 12.

Report of Gaol Committee, Reading, Berks.

Pursuant to the Order of Sessions, your Committee have entered into the several Resolutions recommended to their Attention and Inquiry.

First.—Into the Conduct and Qualification of the Officers, and the Fitness of all in their several Situations to the Discharge of their respective Duties.

It gives your Committee Pleasure and Satisfaction to report that the Chaplain has been extremely assiduous in the Discharge of his Duties, and paid great Attention to the interior Management of the Prison.

The Surgeon having in a great measure entrusted his Son with his Duties, they have not hitherto been well performed; however, great Improvement has recently manifested itself. It can only be by the frequent Superintendence of the senior and principal Surgeon that this particular and important Department can be rendered effective.

The Keeper's Conduct and Qualification for his Office have necessarily, from the Importance attached to them, and the careful Investigation entered into, taken up much of the Time of your Committee. This Inquiry has therefore been made the Subject of a distinct annexed Report.

The principal Turnkeys, Beall and Ferry, the former of whom is also Storekeeper and Taskmaster, have fulfilled their respective Duties with Efficiency, Zeal, and Honesty. The Turnkeys, Webb, Paulin, and Hewitt, appear to have conducted themselves well.

Secondly.—Into the Accounts, Charges, and Expenditure of the whole of this Establishment since it has been under the Superintendence of the present Keeper.

Your

657

No. 12. Report of Gaol Committee. Reading, Berks.

Your Committee, having directed a Return to be made of the last Quarter's Expenditure in the Gaol and House of Correction (the Publication of which will, in their Opinion, tend in a great measure to prevent unnecessary Expenditure), recommend that this Account shall be printed and circulated at every Sessions for the Information of the several Justices.

Your Committee having examined into the System of keeping the Books, Accounts, and Reports, and finding that the great Multiplicity of them renders it impossible for the Visiting Justices to give them that Examination and Attention they require, have therefore found it necessary to compress them, and have introduced an explanatory Book of Reference to be made up every Week, which will greatly facilitate their Examination.

Thirdly.—Into the Discipline and Management of the Gaol and House of Correction.

Your Committee having inquired into the Discipline and Management of the Gaol and House of Correction, and having had Reports laid before them from the best-regulated Establishments of this Description in the Kingdom, have particularly directed their Attention to the future good Management of this Gaol under the several Heads of "Separation and Discipline," "Employment and Earnings," "Diet," "Conveyance of Prisoners," "Visitors to Prisoners," and "Re-committed Prisoners," and into a Revision of the "Rules and Regulations" for the Government of the Gaol and House of Correction.

Separation and Discipline.

Your Committee are convinced from the Evidence placed before them, and the Inquiries they have entered into, that much Good would result by a better and more strict System of Separation being introduced in the Gaol and House of Correction.

First.—With regard to Prisoners before Trial; for it is in those Wards that the Association of the innocent with the guilty is most to be feared. Prisoners who have been committed and tried for repeated Offences, and who have been in this Gaol for their Second, Fourth, and even Twentieth Time, are classified according to their last Offence, and become the daily and sleeping Companions of the eventually proved innocent Prisoner, and who has never been in a Gaol before.

Secondly.—With regard to the House of Correction, where all have been pronounced guilty; yet it becomes a serious Consideration whether Crime is not greatly increased by the little Attention that is here paid to the Separation of Prisoners. The old Offenders, and those who have become hardened in Crime, are frequently re-committed for minor Offences, and thus become the daily and sleeping Companions of those Prisoners who under a better Discipline might be reclaimed.

As many as from Ten to Eighteen Prisoners are here placed together for the Night; and, when not at Labour, from Ten to Thirty are associated in the Day-wards; and however strict the Officers may be at other Times in preserving Silence and preventing Communication, yet all the Good that would result from a continued and efficient Separation here fails, and thus leads to the Contamination of the comparatively innocent Prisoner. It is here, as has been rightly observed and proved, that Thieves and all other Offenders whose Crimes are committed upon Property receive the most useful Instruction, not only for perfecting themselves in their Vocation, but of the Objects on whom it may be most easily practised; and the comparatively short Detention of a large Majority gives them the Means of immediately executing the Lessons they have received. It is here also that the old and wily Offender picks up his Dupes, and obtains Proselytes and Companions for his future Projects: and at this Moment there are Men in the Gaol who from having been the Dupes have now become Masters in the Art of Fraud and Deception, especially in that serious Evil, the Practice of passing base Coin, and which is perhaps scarcely or ever done by the Principal.

It has been ascertained that Vagrants come to Gaol for the Benefit of the Pass; others have subjected themselves to Imprisonment for the Cure of Disease, and have timed the Period so well, that during their Incarceration they are necessarily exonerated from Labour. But Imprisonment even with Labour is of little Import to many Offenders under the present Management, their only Regret being Deprivation from Beer, Spirits, and Tobacco. The Loss of Liberty is of little moment where they find so many congenial, and, to them, agreeable Associates.

It has become a well-known and widely-spread Fact that "a Man having been sent to Gaol could get no Good there;" at least he should derive no Harm; the Object is that he should be improved. Ought we not to strive to procure so desirable an End for his present and future Welfare, as well as for the Advantages of Society?

Your Committee therefore suggest, in order to obviate the Evils of Contamination as much as possible as regards the Prisoners before Trial in the Gaol, that, as far as practicable, they shall be made to sleep in separate Cells, and that the Cells in these Wards be increased from Time to Time, and that this Improvement be effected by the Prisoners, under the Superintendence of the Officers, and by Order of the Visiting Justices. This has been done in other Counties, and been attended with little Expense, and at the same Time has proved exceedingly beneficial to the Prisoners employed.

Your Committee also recommend that the same Improvements for Separation by these Means be commenced in the House of Correction, and that the Day-wards opposite the Treadmill, and sleeping Rooms over them, be converted into separate sleeping Cells, and that the present

No. 12. Report of Gaol Committee, Reading, Berks.

present Cooking-house, which can be removed to a Building applicable to that Purpose, and No. 13 Ward, be divided in the same Manner, which will at once give Thirty-three separate sleeping Cells. And it is proposed that the worst Description of Prisoners, and all re-committed Prisoners, be kept to these Cells, and that they be then kept separate from each other and all other Prisoners; that they be removed from thence to their Work, and back at Meal-times; and that their several Rations be placed in the Cells, which are to be cleaned and aired whilst they are at work. And that the Tread-wheels be arranged with separate Compartments, so that the Prisoners during Labour cannot see or converse with each other; and this is particularly required for carrying into Practice the Provision in the Will of the late Mr. Shutes. At present the Boys are necessarily associated with the other Prisoners when at work on the Tread-mill.

That during Labour there shall be strict Silence and no Conversation, and that a Shed be erected by the Prisoners, in like Manner as before suggested, from the Materials of Buildings now of no Use, in lieu of the Day-wards, and as a Workshop.

Employment and Earnings.

Much remains to be accomplished with regard to the productive Employment and Earnings by Prisoners. In some Gaols the yearly Returns are considerable, as at Springfield, 386*l.* 3*s.* 3¾*d.*; Northleach, by Tread-mill, for grinding Corn, 46*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*; at Wilton, by Tread-mill and various other Employments, 288*l.* 14*s.* 5½*d.*; at Shepton Mallett, 399*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* These Sums are stated to have been paid over in aid of the Rates in those Counties where the Gaols are situated. Considerable Gains are also shown by the Returns from various other Gaols: Chester, 615*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*; Knutsford, 1,032*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*; Salop, 780*l.* 1*s.* 2½*d.*; Stafford, 576*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*; and at Petworth those Prisoners who are sentenced to simple Imprisonment earn their Subsistence in Six Hours.

The Corn-mill is now let to Mr. Slaughter at a Rent of 35*l.* per Annum; but from this Sum must be deducted *l.* paid for Repairs during the Year. The Mill, therefore, under the present greatly-improved Management, though not an actual Loss as formerly, cannot be said to give an adequate Return for the Average Number of Men daily working on the Wheels.

Diet.

Your Committee recommend that in future the Dietaries, as in the annexed printed Accounts, shall for the future be in use for the different Classes of Prisoners confined in the Gaol and House of Correction, according to the following Rules: that

No. One—Shall be given to all Male Prisoners condemned (except for Murder) or sentenced to Transportation, or committed to hard Labour for any Period not less than Three Months, all working at their respective Trades, or otherwise entirely for the Benefit of the Prison, Females employed in the Wash-house and Laundry, and those nursing their Children.

And that the Dietary

No. Two—Shall be given to Deserters, Boys and Females under Seventeen Years of Age (except Misdemeanors and for Want of Sureties), and to Prisoners for Trial who do not work, all Vagrants and re-committed Prisoners to hard Labour for any Period not less than Three Months, for Contempt of Court, for further Examination, King's Evidence, and all other Prisoners sentenced or committed to hard Labour for any Period exceeding One and not exceeding Three Months.

And that the Dietary

No. Three—Shall be given to Debtors entitled thereto by Rule (but without Soup or Gruel, which has not hitherto been given), to all Vagrants and re-committed Prisoners under Three Months, and all other Prisoners sentenced or committed to hard Labour for any Period not exceeding One Month, and to all other Prisoners who may be entitled by Law to receive Food from the County. And it is lastly recommended that the above shall be the general Appropriation of the Dietaries for the Subsistence of Prisoners, with the Exception of re-committed Prisoners to the House of Correction at Reading or Abingdon, who shall have no Indulgence whatever, and be restricted (whatever their Diets may be on the Days of the Week) to Bread and Water during the Sunday. That all Prisoners on the Day on which they are received into or discharged from Prison receive Half Diet, to consist of ¾ lb. of Bread and One Pint of Gruel. But the Visiting Justices shall make (by a written Order), from Time to Time, such individual Exceptions or Additions to the several Classes here named, with respect to Diet, as they shall think proper. And should any Prisoner appear not to be included in any of these Classes, the Visiting Justices shall order for him such Dietary as they shall judge most appropriate to his Description of Offence, Regard being had in all Cases to the Health of the Prisoners, and the Labour to which they are put.

But if a Justice shall order any Prisoner to be punished by solitary Confinement for any Time not exceeding One Month, such Justice may also order such Prisoner to be kept on Bread and Water only during that Time. The Keeper to make a weekly written Report, to be entered in the Visiting Justices Book, of all Prisoners on Bread and Water during the Week, and of those Prisoners who maintain themselves pursuant to the Rules and Regulations.

Visitors

Visitors.

Much of the valuable Time of the Officers, with great Detriment to the good Discipline of the Gaol, is taken up by too promiscuous and large an Admittance of Visitors to see the Prisoners. Much Good would, no Doubt, result if considerable Restriction were put upon the Visits of the Friends of Prisoners; it is a Gratification which is known to alleviate in a considerable Degree the Punishment intended.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend the Court to request the Magistrates not to admit Visitors to see convicted Prisoners, except in Cases of urgent Business or Necessity.

Conveyance.

Your Committee recommend, in future, with Consent of the High Sheriff, (and they do not apprehend any Objection on his Part,) as the Prisoners and Debtors in the Gaol are of more Consequence to be under the immediate Care of the Keeper than the few Convicts that would, during their Conveyance, be entrusted to the Charge of an inferior Officer:—

That all Convicts, except in special Cases when otherwise ordered, be sent under the Charge of a Turnkey, with an Assistant Turnkey, if one can be spared; if not that a Guard or Guards be hired for that Purpose (for whom the Keeper shall be responsible); and that from the 1st of April to the 1st of October the Officer in charge of Convicts shall remove them to Woolwich or Gosport, and return the same Day; and from the 1st of October to the 1st of April Two Days be allowed, if necessary. Turnkeys—First Day, 10*s.*; Second Day, 5*s.* Guards—First Day, 5*s.*; Second Day, 3*s.* 6*d.* These Sums to include all their Expenses exclusive of Conveyance.

When the Prisoners do not exceed Six in Number, that they be sent by Coach. These Matters to be subject, however, to the Control and Order of the Visiting Magistrates, to whom Report is to be made previous to any Prisoners or Convicts being sent from the Gaol.

J. J. Bulkeley, Chairman.

Reading Gaol, 14th Oct. 1834.

No. 1.

Estimated Cost of dividing Four Day-wards into Twelve Cells, by Brick Work Nine Inches thick, working in the old Materials with the new required; Door Frames set in Cement; and Doors covered with Iron on both Sides, with Bolts, &c.; and all Materials, except the Locks required for the Doors, done in a strong workmanlike Manner by Prisoners,—would cost the Sum of - - - - - *Forty Pounds.*

No. 2.

To erect a Shed in the open Space, between the Chapel and Cook-house, Twenty-nine Feet long, Ten Feet wide, for Prisoners to take their Meals and work under; the same to be erected, painted, &c. by Prisoners, from Materials and Part of the Buildings outside the Gaol, with new Plate, Purlins Door, with Hinges for the same, Shutters, Laths for the Roof, Nails, Spikes, Mortar, &c.—would cost about the Sum of - - *Seven Pounds.*

No. 3.

Estimated Cost of dividing Five sleeping Rooms into Eleven Cells, by double Boarding of the best Yellow Deal, Space filled up with Sawdust, and lined on each Side with Plate Iron; Doors, &c. complete; Work done by Prisoners,—would cost the Sum of - *Thirty-one Pounds.*

No. 4.

Estimated Cost of dividing the Room similar to the Day-wards in the House of Correction, but at present used as a Cook-room, into Three Cells, according to Estimate No. 1. would cost about the Sum of - - - - - - *Twelve Pounds.*

No. 5.

To fix Two Iron Boilers in the Room erected for a Fire Engine, removing the Door from the West to the North End, Shutter, &c.,—would cost about *Thirty Shillings* if done by Prisoners.

Thos. Beall, Taskmaster, &c.

No. 13. Statement of productive Prison Labour in Petworth House of Correction.

No. 13.

Statement of productive Prison Labour in Petworth House of Correction.

House of Correction, Petworth, 8th June 1835.

My Lords,

I most respectfully lay before your Lordships the following Statement of productive Prison Labour in this House of Correction, with the annexed Abstract from the Accounts of the Prison, in order to show that such productive Manufacture may be carried on in Agricultural Counties, not only without Loss, but with considerable Gain to the Establishment.

On my Appointment to the Keepership of this House of Correction, in the Year 1824, the Woollen Manufactory, which had been established upwards of Eight Years, (and the only productive Employment then in the Prison,) was 396*l.* in Debt to the County, which disposed the Visiting Justices to recommend to the Quarter Sessions its Abolition; but on my soliciting a Trial thereof, under my Superintendence, the Visiting Justices were pleased, on the 15th Day of October 1824, to direct, "That One Year's further Trial be made of the Manufactory:" and it has continued progressively to improve to the present Time, under every possible Disadvantage of a strictly Agricultural District; so much so that I have never had a Journeyman Weaver committed to the Prison who could weave a Blanket, or a Piece of coarse Linen. Moreover, our principal Employments, namely, that of the Tread-wheels and Crank Labour, which ought to produce the greatest Profit, are non-productive, except supplying the Prison with Water, whereby I have but very little Opportunity of making the most of the Manufactory; and during the last Two Years I have been greatly obstructed in its Progress by the Alterations and Additions to the Prison:—nevertheless I have persevered under every Disadvantage, until I have not only paid off the Debt, but realized for the County considerable Profit, as will be seen by the following Abstract.

From such Facts it might be asked, if these are the Results in a small Prison like Petworth, with such scanty Means, and where many Prisoners are committed for short Sentences, and nearly One Fourth of the Prisoners not liable to Labour, being committed to take their Trial, what may not be done in a larger Prison, situated in a Manufacturing County, where all the Power of the Prisoner might be employed in productive Labour?

And I am fully confident, under the new System of Separation and Silence, I shall be able, without Injury to this most desirable Discipline, to carry on our Manufactories in separate Cells more efficaciously than heretofore.

Abstracts of the Profit of Productive Labour in the House of Correction at Petworth, showing the actual Amount of Profit paid to the Treasurer of the County, and deducted from the Quarterly Bills of the Expenses of the Prison; distinguishing the Amounts arising from the different Employments; from Michaelmas 1824 to Easter 1835.

	Amount of Profit paid to the County.												Amount saved to the County by compelling the Prisoners to perform Work previously paid for by the County.			Grand Total.		
	Woollen Manufactory.			Linen Manufactory recently established.			Shoemakers Account.			Tailors Account.			Total Amount paid to the County.								
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount paid to the Treasurer	396	0	0		—			—			—			—			—				
Amounts deducted from the Quarterly Expenses of the Prison	242	13	9	10	0	0	62	7	8½	64	18	6½	776	0	0		—				
Amount saved to the County by the Prisoners Labour in the Reparations, Alterations, and Additions to the Prison	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	1,278	18	7¾	2,054	18	7¾

Note.—The Master Manufacturer and Assistant is paid out of the Proceeds of the Manufactory, together with all the Machinery, Materials, &c.; consequently the County is not put to One Farthing's Expense in carrying on productive Labour; but it has cost the County Hundreds of Pounds for non-productive Employment.

I have the Honour to be,
My Lords,
Your Lordships obedient and very humble Servant,
John Mance, Keeper.

60.

No. 14.

No. 14. Return of the Number of Convicts transported in each Year, from 1817 to 1835.

A Return of the Number of Convicts transported in each Year, from 1817 to 1835 inclusive.

Year.	Number embarked.		Deaths on Voyage.		Proportion of Deaths.		Number of Ships.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1817	2,039	189	16	3	1/128	1/63	11
1818	2,757	229	29	4	1/95	1/57	17
1819	3,036	127	15	- -	1/203	- -	17
1820	3,405	225	16	- -	1/213	- -	23
1821	2,455	183	12	- -	1/204	- -	18
1822	2,185	200	27	2	1/81	1/100	16
1823	2,256	314	23	4	1/98	1/78	15
1824	1,627	270	8	1	1/203	1/270	17
1825	2,811	321	30	3	1/93	1/107	16
1826	1,868	421	10	12	1/186	1/35	16
1827	3,289	596	26	3	1/126	1/198	27
1828	3,468	451	51	3	1/68	1/150	27
1829	4,528	894	40	12	1/113	1/74	28
1830	4,864	670	41	9	1/118	1/74	31
1831	4,206	855	30	7	1/140	1/122	26
1832	4,511	674	49	19	1/92	1/35	29*
1833	5,326	390	51	4†	1/104	1/97	25†
1834	4,612	780	No Returns yet received.				24

* Cholera prevailed.

† Amphitrite not included.

Admiralty Office, 21st May 1835.

James Meek,
Comptroller of Victualling and Transport Services.

No. 15.

No. 15. Mr. Chesterton's Remarks on Prison Discipline.

Mr. Chesterton's Remarks on Prison Discipline.

House of Correction, Cold Bath Fields, 27th June 1835.

My Lords,

I am greatly impressed with the Necessity that exists for some stronger Check upon the Conduct of Prisoners within the Walls of a Prison than does now in effect exist; one that shall be unerring, and admit neither of Abuse on the Part of Governors and Keepers, nor of Evasion on the Part of Prisoners. The Power that is already exercised, of inducing Submission by solitary Confinement on Bread and Water, succeeds, in the Majority of Cases, in ultimately bending the unruly Spirit; but it is in numerous Instances insufficient in the Outset to deter. True it is, that the Visiting Magistrates are authorized to inquire upon Oath into graver Charges, and to award lengthened solitary Confinement (not exceeding One Month), or Corporal Punishment; but the former to be as close as is necessary with outrageous Delinquents, and accompanied by a Reduction of Diet, is seriously destructive to the Health; and the latter, from the extreme Repugnance felt to its Infliction, is rarely resorted to, indeed I may say never but in such Instances of gross Outrage or of stern Necessity as render its Application indispensable. These Enactments become, therefore, in effect, a dead Letter, and consequently there is a ceaseless Struggle between the Governor and the more obstinate Prisoners, and particularly with new Comers. I should earnestly hope, with Sir James Williams, (First Report, p. 124,) that the Power of whipping for gross Insubordination in Prison will never be taken away, for, though seldom resorted to, it may most beneficially be hung in terrorem over the Heads of Prisoners, and, must in some Degree, tend to repress Outrage. I have already observed in my Evidence, (First Report, p. 96,) that there is no Punishment which Prisoners dread so much as a Prolongation of their Imprisonment; but I am aware how objectionable it appears to be to let the Detention of a Prisoner depend upon any ill-defined Authority of his Keeper. Every Precaution against Caprice or Oppression of any Sort should undoubtedly be interposed; and indeed the Governor, who solely desires the fair Means of enforcing reasonable Authority, will equally desire to see his Power duly restricted. If, therefore (as has been suggested to me), every Prisoner withdrawn from his proper Station in the Prison, and placed in solitary Confinement by reason of Misconduct, were subjected to an increased Imprisonment, on the Plea that his Labour due to the Public by the Award of the Law was in the meantime suspended, considerable Power (liable to great Abuse) must be conceded to his Keeper. But I trust to be able to show to your Lordships that prolonged Imprisonment might unobjectionably follow as a matter of course, its Certainty constituting its Efficacy, under well-defined Rules, for wilful Neglect of Work only, with an equally salutary Effect both on the Prisoner and the due Order of his Prison. The Obstinacy displayed by Prisoners in the Performance of their Work would

No. 15.
Mr. Chesterton's Remarks on Prison Discipline.

would scarcely be credited by those ignorant of the Disposition of that Class of Persons; and the Amount of Work finished by able-bodied Men is oftentimes so absurdly small, that you wonder at the Effrontery of the Man, who, sentenced to hard Labour, presumes to complete only that Quantity that would disgrace the Industry of a Child. Whenever the Tread-wheels have needed Repair the Prisoners in this Place have been set to pick Oakum, and in order to satisfy myself that I did no Man an Injustice by requiring of him more than he could accomplish, I have from Time to Time made Experiments on the Quantity to be done in a given Time. Young Boys of tender Age, old Men bending under Infirmities, but still willing industriously to exercise their remaining Strength, together with able-bodied Men of various Ages, and my own Officers, who had never picked Oakum before, have from Time to Time been set to work to guide me as to the Tasks I should assign to Prisoners. I have consequently proved satisfactorily, that, if well disposed, a Man who had never done such Work before might without Difficulty pick One Pound in an Hour and a Quarter or an Hour and a Half; and yet it has frequently happened, that in Seven or Eight Hours a powerful Man would pick Three Quarters of a Pound of Oakum, and impudently assert, that he had exerted his utmost Power. I have never been disposed to overlook such wilful Idleness, but I have perseveringly punished all such Defaulters. On the 14th of April last, the whole Body of Prisoners being employed on Oakum, I was compelled to punish Eighty-four Prisoners, every one of whom might, if under the Influence of some sufficient Dread of Consequences, easily have performed his Task. Those also on the Thread-wheels are continually descending from their Work, and asserting their Inability to continue it. If the Weather becomes unusually warm, or if the Motion of the Wheel be in a trifling Degree accelerated, a Dozen or Two stout active Lads strike from Work, never remembering that the free Labourer or Artizan who has a Family to support must procure Bread for his Family by continuing his Exertions under all Variations of Temperature. On the 14th of May last, Twenty able-bodied Prisoners thus left the Wheels, not One of whom the Surgeon could excuse, and the whole of them, after Three Days solitary Confinement on Bread and Water, willingly resumed their Labour. Within the last Six Months upwards of 700 Punishments for wilful Neglect of Work have taken place in this Prison, for, however inconvenient and painful it is to exercise my Authority to that Extent, I deem it an essential Duty, whenever the Surgeon declines to admit the Excuses made, to check this prevalent Vice of Idleness. Without any Danger of Injustice, therefore, I think it might most beneficially be enacted, that in Cases of wilful Neglect of Work (the Quantity to be properly defined in the Rules to be approved by the Secretary of State) the Time passed by the Prisoner through the his own wilful Default in solitary Confinement should invariably be added to his Term of Imprisonment; and so confidently should I anticipate the Effects of such a Law, that I am sure not One Case out of Twenty, now so frequently occurring, would under such Circumstances arise. Some Prisoners actually court successive Punishments with the view to make themselves Subjects for the Infirmary. One young Man (with that Object), on the 13th Instant, in Five Hours picked One Ounce of Oakum; and many have contrived to mutilate themselves in order to escape Work, and repose in Idleness. Now if such Consequences as increased Imprisonment resulted to Parties so offending, we should witness but very few Examples of this Kind.

While on the Subject of Punishments your Lordships will perhaps permit me to observe, that by certain Questions put to Lieutenant Sibly and to the Keeper of the Prison at Devizes an erroneous Impression seems to exist in some of your Lordships Minds as to the Proportion of Punishments recorded in the annual Returns. At Page 139 of the first Report a Question is put to Lieutenant Sibly, in which the Number of 463 Punishments, recorded in the Return for 1834 to the Secretary of State, is compared with 2,402 Prisoners committed to Brixton in the course of that Year; and at Page 208 of the First Report, M. T. Haywood, Governor of the House of Correction at Devizes, is asked, with reference to the Return from that Prison to Michaelmas 1834, "Do you not conceive 245 Punishments by solitary Confinement is a large Number with reference to 855 Prisoners?"—(the Number committed in the course of the Year.) Now I would most respectfully suggest, that that is not the correct practical View of the Subject. I will illustrate the Matter by referring to the Prison at Cold Bath Fields, in which, for the Year ending Michaelmas 1834, the total Number of Prisoners was 10,596, and the Punishments of all Kinds 3,047. The daily Average Number through the Year was, however, 1,065; and in order truly to estimate the Proportion of Punishments the last Number should be multiplied by 365, since for every One of that Number of Days we had to control 1,065 of the worst Class of Persons; thence it will appear that the 3,047 Punishments was relatively to 388,725. Some Questions have also been put to certain Witnesses as to the Increase or Decrease of Punishments under the Silent System; but obviously where the most trifling Breach of Order, even a casual Ejaculation, is in some Degree punished, the Number of Punishments must be very considerably increased. Most of them, however, are of a very trivial Character, viz. the Stoppage of a small Part of the Bread or Gruel; but certainly, in proportion as the Rules are strict and unflinchingly enforced, the Punishments must necessarily be multiplied, and particularly in a Metropolitan Prison, where the daily Number of fresh Arrivals is great.

On the Practicability or otherwise of the Silent System, and of the Value of the Services of the Prisoners as Monitors, much has been said; and Lieutenant Sibly, in particular, labours hard to condemn both. But while I fully agree with him in preferring separate Confinement, and have distinctly admitted the Preference in my Evidence, I am not the less

603

No. 15.
Mr. Chesterton's Remarks on Prison Discipline.

convinced that the Silent System, even where Prisoners are congregated in large Classes, can be effectively maintained; not indeed so perfectly as to lead me to assert that there shall not be an occasional Exclamation, or a hasty Remark made in a Whisper, (since Reference to my Journal of Punishments will prove the contrary,) but so far enforced as to answer all moral Purposes, and to assure me that demoralizing Conversations and mischievous Machinations cannot exist under it. We have found practically in this Prison that large Bodies of Men can be made to work from Morn till Evening with only an occasional Whisper hazarded by some few; but in those Cases Detection and Punishment are almost sure to follow. Out of many Hundreds a few obstinate Individuals will also occasionally be found who will vent their ill Temper by Insolence, and even Threats, if touched by the Monitor for talking; but Punishment for those Offences inevitably follows, and such Examples tend to repress the same Spirit in others. The Silent System, however, can only be maintained by the most determined Perseverance to punish every Breach of it; not a single Excuse must be admitted, otherwise false Reasons for speaking will be abundantly offered. Lieutenant Sibly and the Rev. Whitworth Russell both express their utter Distrust of Prisoners as Monitors, whereas in most Instances we find they do their Duty well; but the Secret of their doing it is the strict Watch that is kept over them, and the Punishment that awaits all Carelessness and wilful Breach of it. Not only do they lose their Places (a serious Consideration to those sentenced to hard Labour), but they are punished for their Negligence by solitary Confinement. In short, it is by establishing every practicable Check upon the Monitors, and never overlooking a wilful Fault, that their Services are rendered valuable; leave them freely to themselves and they would naturally adopt the Course which offered them the least Trouble; but here uncertain Surveillance and ceaseless Vigilance of one Sort or another are the Means by which we ensure good Services from such a Quarter. Lieutenant Sibly's Prepossession against the System is so strong that he can see nothing but Confusion and Evasion where we find Order and Security. At Page 142, First Report, his Observations run thus:—"But to give an Idea of the Contamination and Disorder inseparable from a Prison under the present Law, it should not be seen at its best, but at its worst. A Prison seen at its best affords no Idea of Contamination; Contamination is then at rest; but a Gaol should be seen in the Morning at unlocking and washing, at Meals, at locking up, and through the Night; its Recesses should be explored, and the various Prisoners not immediately under Surveillance should be seen; the Hospitals, the Gardens, the Wardsmen, the Wash-house, the Laundry, the many Women with Children; the Prisoners should be accompanied to their various Removals from one Part of the Prison to another: it is then and there that idle Conversation and Wickedness are going on. In the Morning, for instance, when the Prisoners are unlocked, and are to be set to work, it is necessary that the Business of washing should be expeditiously performed; they must therefore congregate round the Water-troughs; and amongst a Crowd of Fifty Prisoners thus busily engaged, requiring Exchange of Soap, Towels, Combs, &c., I leave to your Lordships to consider if it is possible to preserve strict Order and Silence;" and so earnest is he upon this Point that he partly repeats it at Page 150. Now, I have invited him and others interested in the Question to visit this Prison at any Hour, early or late, or in the Middle of the Night. One Magistrate of Surrey has visited this Prison Four or Five Times, and he always found the same Order to exist at whatever Hour he came; he went through the Prison also at Night, and he still found the same Quietness existing; and I pledge myself that had he come at or before the Hour of rising, or at or after the Hour of Evening locking-up, he would have been equally satisfied that the Silence and Order were general, no matter what might be the Hour. But to show the Fallacy of Mr. Sibly's Reasoning it is only necessary to allude to his Remarks on the Prisoners washing themselves, which run thus:—("They must therefore congregate round the Water-troughs; and amongst a Crowd of Fifty Prisoners thus busily engaged, requiring Exchange of Soap, Towels, Combs, &c., I leave your Lordships to consider if it is possible to preserve strict Order and Silence.") If we were to suffer a Crowd of Fifty to congregate in the Manner described round the Water-troughs, I should certainly answer, "No;" but in point of fact we permit no such Thing; no greater Number are allowed to go at one Time than can conveniently wash, (say Four, or at most Six,) and a Monitor is stationed there to preserve Silence and Order: thus that Objection is at once disposed of; and in like Manner might I dispose of many others. But I continue to affirm, that, if due Perseverance to uphold the Rules be exercised, the System can be maintained, and that numerous Moral Advantages will spring from it, and that at least Contamination will be eradicated where it is strictly enforced.

I beg to conclude these few Remarks with suggesting to your Lordships that it would be most desirable that some Enactment should interdict the Discharge of Prisoners on the Sundays. The Prison Officers would in that Case be spared from Labour on that Day; the Neighbourhood of the Prison would not be infested with the Crowds usually assembled to receive and welcome Friends about to be liberated, and the Sanctity of the Day would be better preserved. Those whose Terms lapsed on Sunday might without Mischief be discharged on Saturday, and thus a very objectionable Practice be obviated.

I have the Honour to remain,

Your Lordships most obedient Servant,

G. L. Chesterton, Governor.

No. 16.
Rev. J. Brown's Explanation and Addition to his Evidence.

No. 16.

Rev. J. Brown's Explanation and Addition to his Evidence.

My Lord Duke, Norwich, 13th May 1835.

As your Grace intimated that the Committee of the House of Lords for inquiring into the State of Prisons in England and Wales would be willing to receive any further Information I might have to offer on the Subject of their Inquiries, I hope I shall be excused for troubling you with a few Observations which have occurred to me since I had the Honour of being examined.

The Case of Suicide to which your Grace referred as having taken place in Norwich Castle in 1834 was that of a Man of the Name of Brackenberry, committed for a violent Assault on his Wife; he destroyed himself the Night after his Commitment, so that he did not come under my Examination, nor does his Name appear in my Books. There have been Two other Cases of Suicide since my Appointment to Office; one under similar Circumstances, the Prisoner not having been seen by me; the third was that of a condemned Criminal, who destroyed himself in the Night immediately succeeding his Trial. Solitary Confinement, therefore, cannot be charged with any of these Acts of Self-destruction.

I have several Times observed, in my Intercourse with the Prisoners, a Depression of Spirits that caused me to apprehend Danger to the Life of the Individual labouring under it, but I do not recollect that such Apprehension arose in any Case of a Person under Sentence of solitary Confinement. I have, of course, uniformly reported these Fears to the Keeper, who has humanely guarded against the Danger by placing Two other Prisoners in the sleeping Cell of the dejected Person. This Precaution has always prevented any ill Consequences.

I have already reported to the Magistrates of Norfolk, that Time might be saved to the Prisoner and Expense to the County by Separation and Silence. I am persuaded that Six Months Imprisonment under such an improved System would be more efficacious towards the Reformation of the Offender than Twelve Months where the Use of Day-rooms is allowed, and where Prisoners have the Power of communicating whilst at Labour, even in Prisons, where the greatest Care is taken to guard against the Evils of this Intercourse. Nor do I find that the Chance of Reformation is always commensurate with the Length of the Imprisonment. Under long Sentences there is almost always an intermediate Point of Time at which the Prisoner is the most heartily tired of his Confinement, and at which he is better disposed to reform his Conduct than he is subsequently. The Cases of long Sentences that I have found most favourable to Reformation are those where the Offenders have entertained Hope that they might by good Conduct recommend themselves for a Remission of Punishment, and where that Hope has not been disappointed.

If I may be permitted to trespass upon your Grace's Time by giving a fuller and more methodical Account of the Manner of my Instruction of the Prisoners than the Answers to the Questions put to me by the Committee can convey, it may perhaps supply some Deficiencies that may exist in my Evidence.

Every Prisoner is submitted to my private Examination before he is classed. The Time employed in these first Inquiries varies much according to Circumstances, and is sometimes extended to considerable Length. It not unfrequently determines the Mode of future Treatment, and it always lays the Foundation for proper Classification. The Chaplain too often discovers a woeful Ignorance in the Prisoner,—that he is totally unacquainted with the very first Principles of Religion and Morality, and perhaps that he is not able to repeat even the Lord's Prayer. He is first taught, therefore, the Lord's Prayer and the Creed; he then learns by rote a Morning and an Evening Prayer for his private Devotion, suited to his Station in Life, and such as may be useful to him after he leaves the Prison; he is also taught short Prayers or Graces to be used before and after Meals, and on his entering and going out of the Chapel; he next learns the Church Catechism, if he has no conscientious Objections to its Doctrines; if he has, his Religious Scruples are respected; but to guard against pretended Scruples for the sake of evading the Task, something else is substituted to be got by heart, generally the 5th Chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel. After the Catechism a plain Explanation of it is taught. During the whole of this Instruction the Prisoner is going on in learning to read, if he stands in need of it, and in all this Course the Services of the Schoolmaster are essential. He acts entirely under the Direction of the Chaplain, who is constantly examining and inquiring into the Progress of the Instruction, and stimulating the Prisoners to Industry, good Order, &c. by his Advice, Exhortation, Praise or Blame, and sometimes by Reward. They are also aware (and are frequently reminded of it) that it is a Part of his regular Duty to report their Conduct weekly, or oftener if necessary, to the Visiting Justices. After they have learned the Explanation of the Catechism, or something equivalent to it, they are permitted to have Slates and Pencils for Writing, as a Stimulus to Improvement, not being allowed to write till they have advanced so far. The Scriptures are generally read in Classes. If the Term of their Imprisonment be not expired, they are required to go on in learning by rote either some of the Collects of the Liturgy, or whatever else the Chaplain shall appoint.

But the most valuable Fruits of a Chaplain's Labours are those which spring from his private Conversations with the Prisoners when no Third Person is present. He has then the most favourable Opportunity of bringing the Sins of the Offender forcibly home to his Conscience. The Advice, Exhortation, plain Dealing, and particular Application which

No. 16. Rev. J. Brown's Explanation and Addition to his Evidence.

he feels himself at liberty to use on these Occasions would not be well received in the Presence of a Third Person, and would not produce the proposed Effect. It is indeed almost always injudicious to speak to a Prisoner on his particular Offences in the Presence of others; but when no one else is present the Chaplain is always attended to with Patience and Respect, and generally with Thanks for his Advice, even if that Advice implies atrocious Guilt, or directly charges the admonished Offender with it. It is in these Interviews, if anywhere, that a Moral Influence is acquired over the Mind of the Prisoner.

When I stated in my Evidence that I am sometimes employed Six or Seven Hours in the Day within the Prison, I hope that neither your Grace nor any other Noble Member of the Committee understood me to imply that so long an Attendance is constantly or very frequently required. The Fact is, that on entering the Prison in the Morning I can seldom at once determine precisely in what Direction or to what Extent my Duty will conduct me; nor when I leave, it is all Care and Labour in its Service to be dismissed. Beside the more obvious Employments which it must impose upon me in my Study, there are Accounts to be kept, Correspondence with Magistrates and others to be occasionally entered into, &c. &c. I think it must appear to your Grace that it would be impossible to mark out for a Chaplain the precise Line or Extent of his daily Duty, without cramping his Energies, lessening his Usefulness, and destroying that Pleasure which results from his being allowed to use his own Judgment and clerical Experience to direct him in his zealous Endeavours to advance the Honour of his God and the Good of his Fellow Creatures. Much, very much, must be left to his own professional Discretion in order to render his Services most efficient.

I have adverted above to Accounts kept by me, which I have found very useful, although they are not required of me. In the first place I keep a private Journal, in which I enter the Name, &c. of every Prisoner who comes under my Examination and Instruction. I note down regularly his Progress, Conduct, Communications, and whatever Information or Circumstances it may be useful for me to refer to. With the Prisoner's Name are entered his Age, the Place of his Birth, the usual Place of his Residence, his State and Family, his Calling or Employment, his Offence, the Date of his Commitment, his Sentence, Date of his Discharge, whether he could read or write at the Time of his Commitment, his Religious and Moral Information, Habits, &c., his Conduct and Improvement in Prison, with Two Columns for miscellaneous Remarks, one from my own Observation, and the other from the Report of other Persons, with a Reference to the Page of the Journal from which these Particulars are extracted. I inclose a Form for the Inspection of your Grace.

The Committee having been pleased to inquire into some Particulars of the Perpetual Curacy which I hold, and Part of the Duties of which I perform, I beg leave to repeat, that as I employ a Curate, who is at all Times ready to assist me, those Services never interfere with my Duties in the Prison. On the contrary, they serve rather as a Relaxation and Recreation to my Mind when wearied with less agreeable Pursuits, making me feel that I am not altogether cut off from all professional Intercourse with respectable Society,—Society endeared to me by an Incumbency of Twenty-eight Years, and in which I have acquired Experience that is best calculated to qualify me for the Office I have the Honour of holding in the County of Norfolk; and so far are my Parishioners from complaining of this Arrangement, that when I offered myself a Candidate to the County, they, without the least Intimation from me, sent a Testimonial to the Magistates, signed by all the principal Inhabitants, Churchmen and Dissenters, praying them to appoint me.

I am, my Lord Duke,
most faithfully,
Your Grace's obedient humble Servant,
JAMES BROWN.

No. 17.

No. 17. Plans of the Tread-mill at Gloucester.

PLANS of the TREAD-MILL at GLOUCESTER.

Die Mercurii, 10° *Junii* 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

The Lord in the Chair lays before the Committee the following Plans respecting Gloucester County Prison:

No. 1. Plan of the Tread-mill in the Penitentiary House of Gloucester County Prison.
2. Plan of the Tread-mill in the Penitentiary House of Gloucester County Prison.
3. Elevations and Section of the Tread-mill in the Penitentiary House of Gloucester County Prison.

Which had been prepared under the Superintendence of the Keeper of that Prison for the Use of this Committee, in pursuance of a Direction communicated to him to that Effect.

The same were inspected by the Committee.

(*See Plans annexed to this Appendix.*)

No. 18.
Letter from J. H. Capper, Esq. respecting Women Transports having been placed in a Male Convict Hulk.

No. 18.

Letter from J. H. Capper, Esquire, respecting Women Transports having being placed on board a Male Convict Hulk.

Sir, Whitehall, 26th June 1835.

I beg to acquaint you, in Reply to your Letter of the 25th Instant, for the Information of the Select Committee on Gaols, that there has been no Instance of a Female Convict being placed on board a Male Convict Hulk; but Cases have occurred in which it has been necessary, under peculiar and pressing Circumstances, to remove Female Convicts from a Transport, on the eve of sailing for Australia, to a Hospital Hulk. These Proceedings have been adopted in consequence of medical Certificates of the ill Health and general Unfitness of the Prisoners to proceed on the Voyage; and they have been detained in such Hospital Hulk only until they have become sufficiently well to be returned to the Gaol from whence they came, or to be transported in pursuance of their Sentence.

I beg further to observe, that the Hospital Hulk in question was formerly used as a Cholera Hospital; that there are no resident Male Convicts on board; and the Females, during their Continuance there, are placed in Charge of the Assistant Surgeon and Master of the Convict Hospital Ship lying alongside, both of whom are married Men; and the latter takes the Responsibility of attending to the locking-up and securing the Cabin in which such Females are confined.

Two Instances occurred during the last Year of Removal under the before-mentioned Circumstances. Both the Females came from Scotland. One was dreadfully afflicted with Fistula, and was so bad as to be unable for some Months to be removed back to Scotland. The other was for a considerable Time in a very bad State of venereal Eruption all over her Body, and has recently been returned to Dundee Gaol in a greatly improved State.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
John Henry Capper.

J. W. Birch, Esq.

No. 19.
Letters from Mr. G. L. Taylor as to altering Dartmoor Prison Buildings into solitary Cells, &c.

No. 19.

Letters from Mr. G. L. Taylor on the Subject of altering the Prison Buildings of Dartmoor into solitary Cells, with an Estimate of the Expense and Plans thereof.

Sir, Admiralty, 25th August 1834.

I have the Honour to send you Copies of my several Letters to Lord Howick on the Subject of Dartmoor Prison, Nos 1, 2, and 3, all of which have been from verbal Requests of his Lordship, on whom I attended in consequence of his Notes of Inquiry to Captain Elliott on the Subject.

My Object in this Matter has been to assist in transferring the Charge and Expense of these extensive Buildings from the Naval Department, where they now are useless, to one where they may be the Reverse.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) Geo. L. Taylor.

E. J. Stanley, Esq.
&c., &c., &c.

My Lord, Admiralty, 21st July 1834.

I have estimated the Cost of altering One of the Prison Buildings, Dartmoor, into Sixty-four solitary Cells, according to the Plan of Mr. Crawford, at the Sum - - - - - - - - £3,000
And for warming the same by Means of warm Water - - - 500

£3,500

Or for Two Buildings to contain 128 Cells - - - - - £7,000

I am, my Lord,
Your Lordship's obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. L. Taylor.

I return my original Plans with those of Mr. Crawford.

The Right Hon. Lord Howick,
&c., &c., &c.

Plans for altering the Buildings at Dartmoor Prison, by dividing them into Solitary Cells.

The Cells in the Seven Prison Buildings are intended to be each Fourteen Feet by Eight Feet Six Inches in the Clear, and the central Passage between the Cells Twelve Feet wide. The Cells to be Ten Feet high on the Ground Floor, and Nine Feet Six Inches high on the

No. 19. Letters from Mr. G. L. Taylor as to altering Dartmoor Prison Buildings into solitary Cells, &c.

Upper Story. All the Division Walls to be Eighteen Inches thick. The central Passage to be the whole Height of the Building, and lighted from the Sides of the raised Part of the Roof. The Upper Story of Cells to be entered from an open Iron Gallery, on each Side about Three Feet wide.

The Cells in the Infirmary Building to be Fourteen Feet Six Inches by Nine Feet in the Clear, and the Passages Nine Feet wide. The Lower Cells to be Ten Feet high, and those in the Upper Floor Nine Feet Six Inches. The Passages to be the whole Height of the Building. The Upper Cells to be entered from an Iron Gallery, Three Feet wide. The Staircases and Entrances will require to be altered, as shown in the Plans.

If the Prison Buildings are divided as shown in the Plans, each of the
Long Buildings will contain on the Ground Floor - - - 30 Cells.
And on the Upper Story - - - - - - 34 —

Together, 64 Cells.

If the Seven Prison Buildings are alike, they will contain together 448 Cells.

The Infirmary Building will contain on the Ground Floor - - 31 Cells.
And on the Upper Story - - - - - - 31 —

Together, 62 Cells.

The Petty Officers Prison (if of the same Dimensions) will also contain - - - - - - - - - 62 Cells.

Total separate Cells - - - - 572

Each Cell should have Double Doors, to prevent the Prisoners from talking or calling to each other across the Passages; and as the Prisoners are to be confined in absolute Solitude, each Cell should have a small Privy constructed therein (on the self-acting Principle), with a constant Supply of Water from a general Reservoir.

Dartmoor Prison.

13th December 1832.

The Octagonal Building, originally Look Rooms; the Struts of the Roof are in Progress of Decay from Damp; and when they give way, the Roofs, which are supported by them, will do so too. The Ends should be scarfed.

Prison, No. 1.—The Gable Ends, Stairs, Platforms, and all Timbers in and connected with them are decayed.

The Girders in the South Wall require scarfing.

The Plate at the Foot of the lower Frame has the Lead cut from it in Places; it should be secured by new flashing, or all the Queen Posts of the Roof will rot with the Wet.

No. 2 and 6.—Are the newest Prisons, and in best Order; but the Gables and all Woodwork connected therewith are damp and decayed.

The Floors of these Two are boarded; the rest Lime Ash on Shingle.

The Privies of No. 2 and 6 have their Roofs slated; the rest are decayed, having been of Purbeck Stone; most external Doors decayed and Hinges rusted; Floors require partial Repair.

No. 3.—Gables damp, and Platforms decayed; Floors partly decayed; Attic Floors are Lime and Ashes (Leaks require stopping here); Privy, Roofs on.

No. 4.—Centre Gable and Stairs as last; generally good except above; small Repairs of Floors and Gables would make it tenantable; Privy Roofs decayed.

No. 5.—As last.

No. 6.—The South-east Angle much exposed, Six Girders are gone in Wall, and Plates decayed; Platforms of Stairs gone, and all Bond Timber at that End.

No. 7.—South-west, long Front, about Ten Girders decayed at Ends; should be scarfed and Plates cut out; Gables very damp; Landings attached are all gone, and Satirs, Privy Roofs all gone.

The Gables are covered with Moorstone Coping and Cornices at the level Line, which let in Wet at Joints and on Top; and the Masonry is generally so bad, and the Stone so porous, that the Walls are constantly damp.

Petty Officers Prison, East Entrance.—South Wall, all Timbers in it decayed, and all Floors attached; the Walls very damp where Chimneys are, in all Instances.

Infirmary, opposite Building West of Entrance.—South Wall damp, and all attached Timber gone; Battening all decayed on this Side, and all Plastering decayed; Walls at Chimney Breasts very bad.

Matron's House, Dispensary, &c.—Ground Floors all gone, and Upper Floors at Chimneys.

Agent's House.—Ground Floors all gone, and opposite are occupied by the Keeper, John Ledger.

Turnkeys Houses.—In very bad State.

Barracks.—Floors generally bad.

No. 19. Letters from Mr. G. L. Taylor as to altering Dartmoor Prison Buildings into solitary Cells, &c.

Generally.—The Main Roofs are in tolerable Preservation, but require Attention, particularly at the lower Plate of the Louvre.

The Staircase Platform of all the Prisons is decayed, from being attached to the Walls, which are wet.

In all South and West Walls the Timbers in and attached to them are entirely decayed.

(Signed) G. L. Taylor.

21st January 1834.

No. 20. Examinations by Visiting Justices at Oxford Castle as to certain Evidence at Page 51, Appendix to First Report on State of Gaols, &c.

No. 20.

Examinations taken by the Visiting Justices at the Oxford Castle, 19th June 1835, with reference to certain Evidence reported at Page 51 of the Appendix to the First Report on the State of the Gaols and Houses of Correction, headed "Oxford Gaol and Justitia Hulk."

(*See p. 51. of Appendix to the First Report.*)

Oxford Castle, 19th June 1835.

At a Meeting of the Visiting Justices, convened by Direction of the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, to consider of certain Evidence reported at Page 51 of the Appendix to the First Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords, appointed to inquire into the State of the Gaols and Houses of Correction, headed "Oxford Gaol and Justitia Hulk."

Present, William Henry Ashhurst, Esquire, Chairman,
The Honourable and Reverend Frederic Bertie,
Robert Marsham, Esquire, D.C.L.,
Joseph Warner Henley, Esquire,
The Reverend Andrew Hughes Matthews, and
The Reverend Theophilus Leigh Cooke.

The said Evidence having been read to the Meeting, the following Officers of the Prison were called in, and examined upon Oath:

James Grant, the Gaoler.

From reference to the Calendar of Prisoners tried at the Oxford Lent Assizes 1833, I have no Doubt of the Identity of the Witness now in the Penitentiary, or of the Persons referred to in his Evidence as the "Three or Four Gentlemen in the same Yard," when in my Custody here.

At that Time the Prison was very full, and many Prisoners therefore were lodged in the same Room both Day and Night. All the Prisoners were, however, so placed throughout the Day that I could observe their Conduct. I have never heard cursing, swearing, quarrelling, or fighting without immediately taking notice of it; and I am satisfied that none of these could have happened, as alleged in the Evidence, to any Extent, without myself or the Turnkeys knowing it.

There is no Officer constantly in attendance upon the untried Prisoners; but every Yard is visited not less than Seven or Eight Times in the course of each Day by myself or the Turnkeys.

I never saw gambling in the Gaol without punishing it; but I cannot say that it may not take place in the Day-rooms without being detected.

Money to any Amount is not allowed amongst the Prisoners; but the Rule is, not to permit a Prisoner to have more than 5*s.* in his Pocket; and I have no Doubt that my Turnkey always attends to this Rule.

I invariably attend Chapel on Sunday, unless prevented by Illness, and I never knew the Chaplain omit to preach a Sermon once in the Day, and read the appointed Services twice. He also catechises the untried as well as the convicted Prisoners, and has a Class of Twelve or more every Day. When the Gaol is full all the Prisoners cannot be accommodated in the Chapel at once, and in such Instances they attend alternately. (I speak of the Chaplain at the Time referred to in the Evidence, he being since deceased; but upon looking to his Journal, I see that all his Sunday and weekly Duties at that Time were performed regularly.)

As to the Remark of the Witness, that the Prisoners had "no Occupation, nothing to do but pass the Time as best suited their Fancy," I apprehend that the Law does not empower me to set a Prisoner to work before Trial.

The Prisoners before Trial who can afford it are allowed to purchase each Day a Quart of Beer of the Price of Four-pence, and no other Liquor; and I positively state that on an Average there does not come into the Prison more than One Pint of Beer per Day proportioned to the Number of these Prisoners.

After Trial all the Prisoners sentenced to Transportation are placed in the Yard No. 4, called by the Prisoners "Botany." The Prisoners sentenced to the House of Correction are never allowed to purchase any thing, either Meat or Beer, but are confined strictly to the Prison Allowance. Those, however, sentenced to Transportation (and who seldom remain in the Prison more than a Fortnight, and are frequently ordered to the Hulks or elsewhere in a Week after Sentence) are allowed, as a Matter of Favour on good Behaviovr, to receive dressed Meat from their Friends, or to purchase it, and the same Quantity of Beer as before Trial. And with reference to the Words in the Evidence "every thing bad was going on

No. 20. Examinations by Visiting Justices at Oxford Castle as to certain Evidence at Page 51, Appendix to First Report on State of Gaols, &c.

around them," (that is, the Transports,) I state that the same Discipline is observed towards them as towards the other Prisoners; and generally the Conduct of the Transports is better than the others, owing to the Favour above mentioned being dependent upon good Conduct.

It is a general Rule of the Prison not to allow Tobacco; but at the Time in question the use of it was promoted, from an express Application of the Surgeon in consequence of the late Appearance of the Cholera Morbus.

With respect to the Three or Four Gentlemen referred to in the Evidence as being in the same Yard with the Witness, the Facts are, that when they were removed from the Court after Trial to the Gaol, (they having been on Bail before Trial,) the Turnkey placed them by mistake in the "Botany" Yard, but they were not there more than Three or Four Hours, for, upon my Return from the Court, I immediately removed them to a Yard to themselves, where they continued as long as they were in my Custody; so that the Allegation that these Gentlemen gave Beer and Money to the Transports for singing to them cannot be true; and most undoubtedly I deny that I was aware of such Conduct, or permitted it. On one Occasion, however, one of the Gentlemen applied to me to be allowed to make a Present to the Prisoners of an Ounce or so of Tobacco each, to which I gave my Permission, and I believe one of the Turnkeys went round with him to present it.

From the Situation in which these Gentlemen were confined, they could not, by Possibility, have had any Communication with any of the other Prisoners.

To the best of my Knowledge, none of the Turnkeys, or any other Person in the Prison, ever kept a Shop. It is the Duty of one Turnkey to go round to the untried Prisoners every Morning, and ask them what Necessaries they want for the Day, and he afterwards procures them; and to the best of my Knowledge and Belief none of the Turnkeys ever make any Profit by ordering Provisions.

I never saw a Criminal Prisoner tipsy either before or after Trial, and I believe that no one could ever have been so without my knowing it.

(Signed) JAMES GRANT.

ROBERT RHODES, the Head Turnkey.

I am now, and was at the Time referred to, Head Turnkey at the Oxford Castle. I see all the Prisoners upon their first coming in. I am ordered by the Governor not to allow the untried Prisoners to have more than Five Shillings in their Pockets at a Time; and if they have more, I take the Surplus from them, and let them have it back by Degrees.

I swear that neither myself, nor any other Turnkey or Person connected with the Prison, keeps a Shop, and that I get no Advantage whatever from any Articles purchased for the Prisoners; and, to the best of my Belief, no other Person does.

I remember one of the Gentlemen, supposed to be referred to, giving the Prisoners some Tobacco on one Occasion, and I went round when he presented it; but no Beer was given by him to the Prisoners at that Time, or, to the best of my Knowledge, at any other. There was not more Noise in the Prison at the Time these Gentlemen were in Custody than usual. I am sure that the Gentlemen were not in the "Botany" Yard more than Three or Four Hours, and, excepting at that Time, it was impossible for these Gentlemen to have had any Prisoners to sing to them.

(Signed) ROBERT RHODES.

JOHN EGGLESTONE, a Turnkey.

I am now (and was at the Time the Gentlemen supposed to be referred to were in Custody) the Turnkey appointed to inquire every Morning of the untried Prisoners what Provisions they want, and I then purchase them at different Shops in the Town. I do not keep a Shop, and I am sure no Person belonging to the Prison does; and I never have had any Profit upon Articles I have so purchased.

I remember when the above Gentlemen were in Prison, and I never purchased any thing for the Prisoners at the Request of those Gentlemen or any of them.

The Mark of
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(Signed) W. H. ASHHURST. JOHN EGGLESTONE.

WILLIAM BURLEY, the Watchman.

I have been Watchman since the 6th July 1833 only, but can state that it is unusual to hear cursing or swearing in the Night; and that if any happens I must, I think, hear it, as I can even hear if a Prisoner coughs in any Part of the Prison.

I have never heard cursing, swearing, or singing in the Night (excepting that the Prisoners will occasionally begin singing, and upon my checking them have stopped); but they have at Times made different Noises, and I have reported them to the Governor, and they have been punished.

I was not Watchman at the Time supposed to be referred to.

(Signed) WILLIAM BURLEY.

The above Examination was taken and sworn by the several Deponents before the said Justices the Day and Year abovesaid.

(Signed) W. H. ASHHURST, Chairman.

No. 21. Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

No. 21.

MINUTES of EVIDENCE taken on board the Convict Prison Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard, before the Lords Select Committees appointed to inquire into the State of Gaols and Houses of Correction.

Die Martis, 26° Maii 1835.

The Duke of RICHMOND in the Chair.

Their Lordships inspected the Labour of the Convicts in the Dockyard.

Their Lordships inspected every Part of the Fortitude Convict Ship, and examined the various Books kept by the Officers of the Ship.

Sir J. Gordon, J. H. Capper, Esq., and Mr. S. Owen.

Commissioner Sir JAMES GORDON, JOHN HENRY CAPPER Esq., and Mr. SAMUEL OWEN, are examined as follows.

(*To Mr. Owen.*) You are Overseer of the Fortitude Convict Hulk?—Yes.

How many Prisoners have you now on board this Hulk?—Six hundred and twenty-one, including Fifty in the Hospital, and the Invalids.

Whom do you call Invalids?—Infirm Men, not able to go to the general Work.

Are they kept in the Hospital?—They have a Ward to themselves in the Hospital.

Does the Fifty sick include the convalescent, whom their Lordships have seen To-day?—No; those are Casualties; they remain on board, being unwell, some from Weakness; occasionally a Man during the Time he is at work is unwell; they are kept on board to be examined by the Doctor.

On Sunday Divine Service is performed in the Morning and Afternoon by the Chaplain?—Yes.

Does he preach a Sermon both in the Morning and in the Afternoon?—Yes.

On what other Days does he attend?—Tuesdays or Thursdays; Thursday is the general Day, in the Evening.

What does he do on the Thursday Evening?—He reads the Prayers and gives a Sermon, commencing at Seven o'Clock.

Upon what other Days does he attend?—He usually attends in the School on Monday and Tuesday Nights.

Does the Chaplain visit the Prisoners who are sick?—Occasionally.

You bring Offenders before him to be admonished?—Yes, there are Reports occasionally made to him of those Circumstances.

Have the Convicts Religious Books in their Cells?—They have Bibles and Prayer-books furnished to them, and Tracts; and for any thing else I apply to the Chaplain.

Who is the Schoolmaster?—Several of the Prisoners are Teachers and Monitors; but a Guard is the responsible Schoolmaster, and also acts as Clerk to the Chaplain during Divine Service.

Are the Prisoners taught to read and write?—Yes, and some few the Use of Figures.

Is the Schoolmaster a Prisoner?—He is a free Man; he is on the Establishment; the others have not been here long; when we find a Man disposed to be useful, we put him into those Situations.

You do not keep them back from Transportation for the Purpose of filling those Situations?—No, not for that Purpose.

Do you select the Men to send Abroad?—Mr. Capper is furnished with a Description of the Men to be sent first; the Fourteen Years and Seven Years Men of bad Character are sent first. Since 1833 they all go, that is the general Order; but that I have stated was the Practice formerly.

If you received an Order To-morrow to send out 200 Men to New South Wales, who would select the Men?—I generally select them.

Upon what Principle do you select them?—Those of the worst Character are sent first, unless we receive Orders respecting any particular Person.

You select the worst Characters, those who have behaved the worst whilst under your Care?—Those who are considered the worst Characters, those who have been previously convicted for serious Offences.

How many Prisoners have you now on board who were here in January 1833?—I believe not above Twenty.

Does

671

Does the Surgeon inspect the Men before they are sent Abroad?—Always, and the Surgeon from the New South Wales Ship, they examine jointly as to the Fitness of the Men going.

Do the Men prefer going Abroad to remaining in the Hulk?—Ninety-nine out of a Hundred are very desirous of going.

By selecting the worst Characters you are holding out a Premium for bad Conduct?

Mr. Capper.—It is only a Change of Time for about Three Months between them; perhaps there may be some Conspiracy going on to effect an Escape. If a Man behaved ill on board the Hulk my Rule has been to keep him the longer if I found his Object was to get Abroad.

Mr. Owen.—Those I allude to as bad Characters are those who have been frequently convicted before, and bad Characters from the Gaol, for we have but very few bad Characters as to their Behaviour here.

Did not One of the Convicts attempt lately to make his Escape?

Mr. Capper.—There were Four Men rowed away from the Yard, and One was found Two Days afterwards smoking his Pipe among his old Friends in Whitechapel; another has been heard of at Nottingham since; but the Escapes are really astonishingly few considering the Number of Men and the Mode in which they are dispersed about the Yard.

Mr. Owen.—There have been numerous Attempts within the last few Years, but there have been only Thirteen lost in Four Years and a Half.

Can you from Memory say how many have been retaken?—Some have been brought back here, but several have been taken and convicted again.

Taken after committing some other Offence?—Yes, they are generally Men addicted to Crime.

In the Offence Book there is a Man directed to be cross-ironed, and dismissed from being a Gangsman, for selling a Pint of Porter given him by Government for his Work; what is cross-ironing?—On both Legs; and they are disgraced.

Do the Men feel the Disgrace?—Yes, some of them after they have been here for a Time feel it.

For what Work was the Porter given?—For extra Work in removing the Mud; they could not do the Work without it.

It appears a Man was ironed and his Pay stopped for Disobedience of Orders; what Pay is that?—The Pay he gets from the Dockyard.

In another Case a Man's Pay was stopped for a Month, and not to be visited by his Friends; do you find that the Convicts feel it to be a great Punishment not being permitted to see their Friends?—Yes, very much.

Are they in the habit of seeing their Friends often?—Once in Three Months, and that on a Sunday between the Two Services.

You would not suffer this Man who has been sentenced to receive Visits from his Friends, nor to see them even if he was to be sent Abroad in a Week?—No; it will remain upon him as long as he remains in the Ship, unless there is something extraordinary.

Do their Friends come any great Distance to see them?—Yes, from Yorkshire and Lancashire and Cheshire.

(*To Commissioner Sir James Gordon.*) What Proportion of Labour do you think the Convicts perform as compared with independent Labourers?—I think in many Jobs they do as much, after they get used to it, moving Spars and so on. When I came here it was necessary to move a great many Spars. After the Convicts had worked about a Week at it I think they did more than I ever saw Men do of the same Work.

Do they work willingly?—Very willingly. They are very well officered, and great Attention is paid to them by the Officers. I have nothing to do with them in the Dockyard, but to direct what is to be done.

You have an Opportunity of seeing what they do?—Yes, hourly; and their Officers are very strict, and keep them in very good Order, and they do work well.

(*To Mr. Capper.*) You are in the habit of coming down and remaining on board this Ship?—Yes, I always reside on board this Ship when I come down.

If any Man has any Complaint to make is he at liberty to see you?—Yes, he has Access to me at all Times. I think I must have seen on Sunday last about Twenty Men.

Men who spoke to you upon various Subjects?—Yes, some about their Case, and some about their Families. There were no Complaints from any Men in the Ship as to Ill-usage. I have had such Things, but not of late Years. This is the Sentence Book, containing the Name of every Man, his Age, where he was tried, his Offence, and Character, whether he can read and write, and his ultimate Disposal.

[Their Lordships inspected the same.]

(*To Mr. Owen.*) Have you an Outline of the daily Occurrences in the Week?—Yes, this is it.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

"The following Outlines will convey an Idea of the daily Arrangements of the Fortitude Convict Hulk.

"Monday. At a Quarter before Five in the Morning the Prisoners are roused from their Slumbers, and at Five each Prisoner brings his Hammock on Deck and deposits it in

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

Sir J. Gordon, J. H. Capper, Esq., and Mr. S. Owen.

in a Berth appropriated for that Purpose, after which they stand up in succession, keeping the Prisoners belonging to each Deck in a distinct Column. When the whole of the Hammocks are deposited, each Column forms into single File, and returns below. Quarter before Six Breakfast is supplied (which consists of a Pint of Gruel or Burgoo and a Quarter of a Pound of Biscuit) to each Prisoner. Quarter past Six the greater Portion of Prisoners are permitted to come on Deck for the Purpose of giving those whose Turn it may be an Opportunity of cleaning the Wards and Passages on the Prison Decks. Quarter before Seven the Prisoners are sent on shore to labour in the Dockyard, previous to which each Individual is searched by the subordinate Officers and Guards in order to detect the Concealment of Money, Letters, or Disguise for the Purpose of Escape. . A due Regard is also paid to their Clothing, to see that it is kept properly mended, Face and Hands washed, Iron clean, and that their general Appearance is as decent as the Nature of Circumstances will permit. Quarter before Twelve the Prisoners return on board, and are searched with a view to prevent the purloining of any Article of Government Stores while employed in the Dockyard. Quarter past Twelve Dinner is supplied. On Monday this consists of Four Ounces of Cheese, One Pound of Brown Bread, and One Pint of small Beer. The same on Wednesdays and Fridays. On Tuesdays boiled Beef (the Allowance is 14½ oz. in its raw State), a Pint of Broth thickened with Oatmeal, and a Proportion of Herbs and Pepper, One Ounce of Salt, and One Pound of Brown Bread. The same on Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Quarter past One they are again searched, and return to Labour in the Dockyard. Half-past Five they return on board and are searched; thus closing their Labours in the Dockyard. Six o'Clock Supper is supplied, which consists of One Pint of Gruel or Burgoo only. The whole of their Food is supplied under the immediate Inspection of the Officers and Guards, and every Care taken to prevent trafficking with their Provisions. Quarter past Six a general Muster takes place, and the Wards on the Prison Decks are locked to prevent any Communication or visiting from Ward to Ward. Quarter before Seven the most illiterate on the Middle and Lower Deck attend School; those on the Upper Deck are employed in washing their Bodies, for which Purpose large Tubs, warm Water, and Soap are provided; the Remainder of those on the other Decks are employed in repairing their Clothes, and paying every Attention to the Cleanliness of their Person and Bedding. At Eight o'Clock a general Muster takes place, and every Ward locked up for the Night, unless any particular Emergency should require a Ward to be opened; and at Nine a Hand-bell is rung, which denotes that Silence is to be strictly observed, and every Prisoner to repair to Bed immediately. During the Night the Prison Decks are frequently visited by the Officers of the Watch, and an Entry made of the State of the Ship during his Watch in the 'Night Watch' Report Book. On the Receipt of Prisoners from Gaols or other Places, and in all Cases of Transfer or Embarkation to New South Wales, each Prisoner is washed, shaved, and his Hair cut. The Officers and Guards are required to be sober, steady, attentive, diligent, and persevering in the faithful Discharge of the several Duties they are called upon to perform, and to have no unnecessary Conversation with any of the Prisoners, and to give their Orders in as few Words as possible, but in a firm and determined Manner. The foregoing Rules are strictly observed every Day, with the following Exceptions; viz. on Tuesday Evening the illiterate belonging to the Upper and Lower Deck attend School, and those on the Middle Deck wash themselves. Wednesday Evening, shaving, Hair-cutting, and shaking and airing Bedding. Thursday Evening, Divine Service. Friday Evening, those on the Lower Deck wash themselves, which completes the general Arrangement for washing the whole of the Prisoners during the Week. Saturday Evening, shaving and Hair-cutting, and every Attention paid to the Cleanliness of their Persons and Clothes. On Sunday a general Muster and Inspection takes place at Nine o'Clock A. M. to see that their general Appearance is decent; they attend Divine Service Twice in the Day, from Half past Ten A. M. to Half past Twelve P. M., and from a Quarter before Three to a Quarter past Four P. M., during which the greatest Order and Decorum prevail, both in coming into Chapel and returning to their Wards: the remaining Part of the Day is devoted to reading the Scriptures, Tracts, and other Religious Books."

(*To Mr. Capper.*) Do you ever discharge Men on Medical Grounds?—No, the Instances have been very rare; I have not known an Instance for some Years.

What other Duties does the Chaplain perform besides those stated?—He attends the sick in the Hospital, and attends the Funerals. He resides in the Hospital.

Does he attend the Boys also?—No; we have another Chaplain for that Duty.

Has he any Parochial Duty?—None.

Would there be any Inconvenience in having Prayers read every Morning?

Mr. Owen.—It would interfere with the Work on shore. Every Morning they leave the Ship early; they have their Breakfast before they go on shore. However desirable it would be, I think it would be attended with great Inconvenience. Whatever Service we have is in the Evening. Frequently large Parties go down to mast and unmast a Ship; they may go down at Seven o'Clock in the Morning, and there would be great Inconvenience in having them return to Breakfast.

Does that form a large Proportion of their Work?

It is only perhaps Forty or Fifty Men in general, but sometimes 100 Men.

Mr. Capper.—There would be a great deal of Time lost in reading their Names over and over again.

Do you think that if the Men thought they should have a Chance of not being sent Abroad ultimately, that they would still prefer going by the first Ship?

Mr. Owen. — I think they would. They say that their Characters are lost in this Country, that there would be no Possibility of their getting any Work if they go Home; and it is melancholy to see the Numbers who do return to the Hulks after their Discharge; I think there were 170 Men who had returned in Four Years and a Half after having been in the Penitentiary or in the Hulks.

You do not perceive any Difference of Feeling with regard to Transportation since you were first appointed to this Hulk?—No, I do not. They have a very general Wish for it. Applications are numerous to go by the first Ship; that is the general Cry.

Mr. Capper. — A great many of them do not like the Work; there have been Complaints occasionally about the Slavery they undergo here. I do not mean to say that is the Case with all of them, but they are looking forward to going to a fine Country.

Do you believe that they are aware that the Punishment is much more severe now in Australia than it was formerly?

Mr. Owen.—I believe they are beginning to understand that.

What becomes of the Invalids who are in your List; do they remain in the Hospital Ship for Life?—No; when they get better they are sent ashore and set to light Work, breaking Stones and sweeping the Yard, and so on.

Mr. Capper. — Ultimately, of course, they are pardoned and discharged. Many of those Men are wholly unfit for Transportation.

Have you Wardsmen and Gangsmen?

Mr. Owen.—Yes; Wardsmen and Gangsmen both combined together.

Do you think you can trust them to report other Prisoners?—There are very few Things in which we discover any thing which they have not told us. If there is any thing they pass by, we break them from Wardsmen, and mulct them of their Pay.

Do you allow them to sing at Night?—No, there is no singing allowed.

What becomes of the Wardsmen; are they ultimately transported?—They in general serve their Two Years, and then are not sent out. Latterly we have been obliged to select Men who lately come into the Ship.

What is the longest Period you retain Prisoners here before they are transported?—Five or Six Months, and from that to Eleven or Twelve Months.

Mr. Capper.—I should think about Four or Five Months now would be the Outside.

With the Exception of Men who were here before 1833, have you had any detained here for Ten Months?

Mr. Owen.—Yes, but a few.

Who appoints the Gangsmen?—Generally myself and the First Mate.

Do you select them because they are clever, or because they bear the best Characters?—Those with good Characters; if they have been here before we never select them.

It appears by this Book that the Keepers of the several Prisons send you the Characters of the Men who have been in their Custody?—Yes; that is our Guide in the Selection very frequently.

What is the Age of the oldest Prisoner now confined on board this Hulk?—Between Sixty and Seventy.

How long has he been here?—He is a Second-sentence Prisoner; he had served Seven Years on a former Occasion; he is a very infirm Man.

Mr. Capper.—I think that Man is near Eighty.

Will he be transported?—No, we cannot transport him; he is unfit.

Have you any Complaints of Prisoners robbing one another?

Mr. Owen.—There have been such Things, but not frequently.

What Punishment is inflicted when such Cases occur and are proved?—Double-ironing them, and stopping their Friends coming to them.

What is their Pay?—They are allowed to earn a Shilling a Week, Half of which is reserved for them 'till they are discharged from Confinement, and the other Half they are allowed to expend in Bread and Potatoes.

From whom do they purchase Bread and Potatoes?—A Person from the Town, who comes into the Yard for the Purpose.

Are they compelled to spend their Money?—He is compelled to lay it out; it is requisite to his Health.

One Man appears to have had Six Shillings stopped for destroying a Pair of new Shoes?—Yes, we take all Money from them when we find it.

When do they receive their Pay?—On Saturday.

You do not allow them to purchase any Beer or Spirits?—No.

Do they get any thing except their Allowance, and what they are permitted to buy, and the Beer they receive in the Dockyard?—No.

No. 21. Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

Sir J. Gordon, J. H. Capper, Esq., and Mr. S. Owen.

Do they bring on board the Beer given to them in the Dockyard?—No, they drink it on the Spot.

Sir James Gordon.—It is only when they are at this Kind of Work that it is allowed; it is very laborious Work, and they could not stand it without. If any Men are employed on other Work, they get nothing.

You think this extra Allowance of a Pint of Beer per Day necessary to enable them to perform that very hard Work?—Yes; I do not think they could work a Couple of Days without it. The Men get wet, though we supply them with Boots; but they cannot get any Beer or Spirits in the Dockyard; there is no Tap in the Yard now.

The new System of Police in the Dockyard prevents it now?—Yes; none of the Shipwrights are allowed to bring a Drop of Beer into the Yard, or any Liquor whatever.

The Witnesses are directed to withdraw.

Their Lordships inspect the Wye Hospital Ship.

Their Lordships inspect the Euryalus Convict Ship for Boys, and the various Books kept by the Officers of the Ship.

Mr. Steadman, and J. H. Capper, Esq.

Mr. STEADMAN is examined, and JOHN HENRY CAPPER Esq. is further examined, as follows:

What are the Boys on board this Ship?—They are all Transports. When a Return is made from a Gaol of the Number of Transports for Removal, the Boys under a certain Age are selected (I select them) to send to this Ship, in preference to mixing them with the Adults, and they remain here 'till the Period of Transportation, that is, 'till they arrive at the Age of Fifteen Years. It was thought at one Period very inconvenient transporting Boys at a very early Age.

At Fifteen Years of Age they are transported?—Yes, they are, with very few Exceptions.

How many are there on board at present?—250.

How many of those are in the Hospital?—Seven.

(*To Mr. Steadman.*) Are you in charge of the Ship?—I am. The average Number of sick is about Six.

That includes a Boy who had an Accident in this Ship Two Years ago?—Yes.

Will that Boy ever recover?—I doubt it.

Will he ever be fit for Transportation?—Certainly not.

What is the Age of the youngest Boy you have now in your Custody?—I think about Ten Years of Age.

When you receive a Boy, what do you do with him?—In the first instance we read the Rules and Regulations of the Ship, and afterwards send him to the Wash-house to be washed and thoroughly cleansed; then he is sent to his Ward,—to the Ward appropriated for any Person.

How long does he remain in the probationary Ward?—Perhaps a Fortnight; not much longer.

How do you class them?—Agreeably to their Character from the Gaols.

Do you put all the worst Characters together?—Yes; the Upper Deck has those on first Convictions, the Second has the next, and the Lower the worst Characters from Gaol.

What Employment do you give them?—Making their Clothing, and for the Establishment, such as Shirts, Jackets, Waistcoats, and Breeches.

Are they taught tailoring, and who teaches them?—Yes. The eldest Boy who is the best Workman teaches them.

Is he a Prisoner?—Yes, he is. The Persons who are Tailors in the Cutting-out Place occasionally visit them,—Two of the Guards who are Cutters-out; and they superintend.

Do you find that making their Clothes is sufficient Employment for them?—They make them for the whole Convict Establishment.

Mr. Capper.—There is a Return, filled up every Week, made to me, which states what Work they have done; and it is the same with respect to the other Parts of the Service, and every other material Occurrence.

What Time is allotted to enable the Boys to have Air and Exercise?—An Hour a Day, the Dinner Hour, and an Hour after that.

How long are they at their Dinner?—About Half an Hour; that gives the Guards Time for their own Dinner, for the Guards of the Ship have to superintend.

Are they permitted to make a Noise, or simply to walk the Deck?—They are not allowed to make any Noise. A Man may walk to the Quarter Deck and scarcely know there is a Boy on Deck. I have made out a Statement of a Day's Proceedings, which I beg to present to your Lordships.

The same is delivered in and read, and is as follows:

"May 1st, 1835.—A Report of the Proceedings for One Day on board the Euryalus Hulk, Chatham.

"At Five o'Clock in the Morning 'All Hands' are called, Ports opened, Hammocks lowered and lashed up, the Boys washed and examined. At Half past Five a Signal is given to prepare for Chapel, when the Boys stand round in their respective Wards, after

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

Mr. Steadman, and *J. H. Capper, Esq.*

which they go in, headed by the elder Boys of the Ward, who place them in their respective Seats with profound Silence: the Morning Hymn is sung, and Prayers read by the Schoolmaster; the Officers and a Portion of the Guards being present. After Prayers they return to their respective Wards, and stand in Ranks 'till the Breakfast is served down at Six o'Clock, equally divided and examined by the Steward and others; he then desires the Boys on One Side of the Deck at a Time to go to their Tables, hold up their Bread, give Thanks, and sit down. At Half past Six the Boys commence coming on Deck, each elder Boy heading his Division, and his Deputy bringing up the Rear. Hammocks stowed, Boys filed up into their respective Divisions by the elder Boy of their Ward, after which the Officer orders all elder Boys on the Quarter Deck for the Purpose of making known any thing that might have occurred since their last Report, when each of their Complaints are noted down in order that they may be inquired into. The Boys return below, in a single File, to clean their respective Wards, with the Exception of those who are appointed to wash the Main and Quarter Deck. At Eight o'Clock the Boys are set to their respective Work, when Silence is observed. At Nine the elder Boys, accompanied by those of whom they complain, state their Complaints to the Commander, when such Correction is awarded as the Nature of their Offence deserves, i. e. by stopping their Dinners, or correcting them moderately with the Cane, or by solitary Confinement on Bread and Water, not exceeding Seven Days; but should any thing of Consequence occur during the Day it is immediately inquired into. At Twelve the Dinners are served down, under the Inspection of the Steward; all Quarter-masters and Guard are in Attendance, for the Purpose of seeing that each Boy eats his proper Allowance. At Half past Twelve Boys sent on Deck for Air and Exercise, but not permitted to make the least Noise. At Half past One Boys filed up as in the Morning, and sent below to their respective Work. At Two a Division consisting of One Third of the Boys sent into the Chapel for the Afternoon, when they are taught reading and writing. At Five the Boys leave off Work, clean their Wards, and wash themselves. At Half past Five Supper is served down, after which the Boys come on Deck for Air and Exercise. At Half past Six the Boys file up as usual, and take their Hammocks down. At Seven the Signal is given to prepare for Chapel, when they proceed in, as in the Morning; after which a Portion of the Boys are catechised, the Evening Hymn sung, and Prayers read by the Schoolmaster. The Boys return to their respective Wards. At Eight the Signal is given to prepare for Muster, when each Boy stands with his Hammock placed before him, till the whole of them are mustered; the Signal is then given to hang up their Hammocks. At Nine profound Silence throughout the Ship; Boats secured, Fires extinguished, Locks examined by the Officer, and the Keys delivered up for the Night. The Watch, consisting of Two Guards, one of which is placed below, and the other on Deck, relieved every Three Hours and a Half, the Bell struck, and 'All's well' called every Half Hour through the Night. On Saturday the Boys are washed all over in tepid Water and Soap.

"Attendance of the Chaplain and Surgeon.—The Rev. H. J. Dawes performs Divine Service twice in the Week, and examines the Boys Progress in Schools, and visits the Sick in the Hospital Three Times, or oftener if necessary. Mr. Hope, Surgeon, attends daily."

Do you find that the Boys prefer remaining on board this Hulk to being sent out of the Country?—I must say that the Majority wish to leave the Country.

Do you think they look forward to the Time when they are to be sent out with Pleasure?—Yes, I think so; for with the close Confinement and Application to Duty, and their being constantly watched, they are glad to be removed from the Ship.

There is no resident Surgeon in this Ship?

Mr. Capper.—No; there was a Hospital Ship, the Canada, which is broken up. There was one Deck appropriated for the Men, and another for the Boys.

What Mode of punishing the Boys is resorted to besides solitary Confinement?

Mr. Steadman.—It is not often that we have recourse to other Punishments, but we sometimes flog them on the Breech with a Cat, not more than a Dozen, or in One or Two Cases a Dozen and a Half.

Is that at your Discretion?—Yes.

It is always reported in your Journal?—Yes, always.

Do you ever punish them by stopping their Food?

Mr. Capper.—Yes; I believe that is more resorted to than any other Mode. Stopping their Meat or lowering their Diet has a great Effect.

Mr. Steadman.—That is the first Resource.

There is no Mention in the Book of working in the Garden?—That is a Garden on shore; the Boys go on shore to assist in digging; there is a Man to superintend it.

Is that the same Garden that belongs to the other Hulk?—Yes, Part of the same; it is divided. There is a Burying Ground and a Garden for each Ship.

You think depriving them of their Supper is a good Punishment?—I think it is a very good Step for the first Offence.

Are they ever punished by being prevented from seeing their Friends?—Yes, if they deserve it.

No. 21. Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

Mr. Steadman, and J. H. Capper, Esq.

Have they any Means of communicating with Boats passing up and down the River?—They are never allowed to speak to any Person.

Are the Cooks Convicts?

Mr. Capper.—Yes.

Have you any Shoemakers?

Mr. Steadman.—A few, not above Half a Dozen. We found, after transporting the elder Boys, these smaller Boys could not make a Shoe, and we were obliged to abandon it. Had the Boys continued in this Country we could have gone on with the Manufactory.

Are there any Boys here under Sentence of Transportation for Seven Years?—Yes.

Will that Boy of Ten Years of Age, whom their Lordships have seen, be sent Abroad?—Yes.

Though he will have but Two or Three Years to serve there?—Yes.

Samuel Ogilby.

SAMUEL OGILBY is examined as follows:

How long have you been in this Hulk?—Twenty Months.

How old are you?—Ten Years.

Are you younger than your Brother?—Yes.

How old is he?—He is Two Years older than me.

Where were you sent from?—Newgate.

When you were in Newgate did you attend the School there?—Yes.

Which do you like best, this Hulk or Newgate?—Newgate.

Why do you prefer Newgate?—Because I could see my Friends there, and it is so far to come here.

Is your Father alive?—No, I have a Father-in-Law.

Is your Mother alive?—Yes.

Have you seen them since you came here?—No.

Did you see your Father-in-Law and your Mother in Newgate?—They used to come twice a Week.

Did they bring you any thing to eat and drink when they came?—Only something to eat, and some Tea.

What Offence were you convicted of?—It was brought in House-breaking.

Did you get in at a Window?—My Brother got in at the Window, and then he opened the Door and let me in.

You stole some Hinges?—Yes, and a Jacket and Waistcoat.

Whose House did you break into?—I do not know; it was next Door to a Playhouse; it was not finished.

Was that the First Time you ever got into Trouble?—No.

What was the First Time?—For some Wood.

Stealing some Wood?—Yes, out of some Buildings.

Where was it you did that?—In the New Road.

What did they do with you when they caught you?—They took me before a Magistrate; then I did not get committed; I got clear.

Were you committed for Re-examination?—I got off when I was took up then.

You were taken before a Magistrate, and he discharged you?—He sent to tell my Friends to come and take me.

Your Friends took you?—Yes.

What was the next Offence you committed?—About Two Trowels.

Where did you get them from?—Out of a Building.

Did you get off that Time?—Yes.

You were not sent to Gaol then?—No.

Was Newgate the First Prison you were ever in?—Yes.

These Offences were committed before you were Eight Years of Age?—Yes.

What was your Sentence?—Seven Years.

Did your Friends punish you when you stole the Wood?—Yes.

What did they do to you?—Beat me, and locked me up in a Room.

In a dark Room?—No.

What did they do the Second Time?—They took my Clothes away the Second Time.

How long did they keep your Clothes away from you?—About Two Days.

Then they gave them back to you?—Yes.

You then committed the Offence for which you are now suffering?—Yes.

Did you go to a Day School or a Sunday School?—A Day School and Sunday School both.

Could you read and write before you came here?—No.

Can you now?—No; I can read a little bit.

(*To Mr. Steadman.*) Do you teach the Boys to write?—Yes.

(*To Ogilby.*) What was the Trade of your Father?—My Father was a Tailor, and Mother was a Dressmaker.

Were you allowed to go out just as much as you pleased?—My Father used to keep me in; sometimes he would let me go out, and then I got out; he gave me leave for so long a while.

Shall you like to be sent to Botany Bay?—Yes.

Would

677

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard

Mr. Steadman. and *J. H. Capper, Esq.*

Would you rather go out than stay here?—Yes.

Why?—I do not like this Place.

You do not know that you may like the other Country?—I might like it or I might not.

You would never see your Friends again, though if kept here you will?—I would sooner go to my Friends again.

What Sort of Treatment do you expect to meet with on the other Side of the Water?—I have heard that they used to work in Chains.

You would not like that?—No; but that those who had good Characters were sold to Masters.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Rev. H. J. Dawes.

The Reverend HENRY JOHN DAWES is called in, and examined as follows:

What is your Duty as Chaplain on board this Ship?—The One Service on the Sunday, and One in the Week, and Evening Service; full Duty on the Sunday Morning; and on Friday Evening Service and Lecture.

Do you read Prayers every Morning in the Ship?—No, I do not.

Who does read them?

Mr. Steadman.—The Schoolmaster.

He is not a Prisoner?—No, he is the Son of a Clergyman.

Does he also read Prayers every Evening?—Yes.

(*To Mr. Dawes.*) You read them once on Sunday?—Yes.

Do you attend the sick in the Boys Hospital?—Yes.

You have nothing to do with the other Ship or Hospital for the Men?—No.

Do you devote the whole of your Time to this Hulk, or have you any other Preferment?—I have no other Preferment.

What is your Salary?—£200 a Year.

Do you visit the sick every Day?—Not every Day; Four Times a Week.

What is the Average of your Attendances in the Week?—Four; every Day if Occasion should require it, when they are sick.

Do you examine the Boys separately, or by Classes?—Sometimes separately, sometimes by Classes.

Which, in your Opinion, is the preferable Mode, by Classes or separately?—I think examining them separately.

Would you begin by examining them separately, to prepare them for the Class Examination?—Yes, I should prefer that.

Do you think the Boys are reformed by remaining here?—I think they are.

Have you any Means of knowing what becomes of them afterwards?—In very few Instances. I can only judge from the Improvement I have perceived in them while they remain here.

Do you think the keeping the Boys Ten or Twenty in a Ward together is so likely to reform them as if they were kept in separate Cells?—I have had no Experience enabling me to answer that Question.

Do you think they become more depraved from remaining in this Ship, and associating with one another?—I think lately there has not been that Inconvenience,—these Two or Three Years,—in their being associated together, which there was Five or Six Years ago. I think there is not any very great Inconvenience, there is such a constant Supervision.

How long have you been Chaplain?—Eight Years.

How many Hours a Day, on the Days you come, do you generally remain on board?—An Hour or Two Hours generally.

Is the Schoolmaster under your Directions?—Yes.

What is the Salary of the Schoolmaster?

Mr. Steadman.—£60 a Year.

Does he live on board?—Yes.

Has he his Board besides his £60 a Year?

Mr. Capper.—No, he has a Cabin to himself, and lives on board; he keeps a Watch.

Mr. Steadman.—And is occasionally on Duty, because we are short of Hands.

Does the School go on every Day?—Yes.

(*To Mr. Dawes.*) Have you any Boys who object to attending the Church Service?—None.

Do you find them on Admission generally very ignorant on Religious Subjects?—Yes.

Are the Boys from London more depraved than those from the Country?

Mr. Steadman.—I think the more depraved come from London.

There is no Afternoon Service on the Sunday?

Mr. Dawes.—We have not; but the Boys read their Books in their Wards.

At what Time do they go on Deck on Sunday?

Mr. Steadman.—Soon after Dinner they are allowed to walk the Deck quietly for Two Hours; then we get them all into the Chapel, and the Schoolmaster reads the Afternoon Service.

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

Mr. Steadman, J. H. Capper, Esq., and Rev. H. J. Dawes.

Without a Sermon?—Yes.

Is there more than One Sermon in the Week?

Mr. Dawes.—One on the Sunday and One on the Friday. I am at liberty on the Sunday Afternoon, and should be happy to attend if I thought it would be beneficial. On Good Friday and Easter, and so on, there is Service; and every Friday Evening there is full Service and a Sermon.

Have you any other Religious Duty?—No other.

The Duty is reading Prayers and preaching a Sermon on Sunday, and the same on Friday Evening?—Yes.

There is no other regular Duty?—No; and the Hospital every Day, if there should be Occasion.

Have you ever found any Boys with no Notion at all of Religion?—Yes, I have.

(*To Mr. Capper.*) What is the Salary of the Surgeon of the Euryalus?—£100 per Annum.

Is he a Surgeon in the Royal Navy?—No.

How often does he visit the Ship?—Daily, and whenever his Services are required.

What is the Salary of the Surgeon of the Fortitude?—£200 per Annum.

Is he a Surgeon of the Royal Navy?—Yes.

Does he receive his Half Pay?—Yes.

He does not reside on board the Hospital Ship; how often does he visit the Fortitude and the Hospital Ship?—He does not reside on board the Hospital. He visits the Fortitude and Hospital daily, and whenever his Services are required.

What is the Salary of the Assistant Surgeon?—£70 per Annum.

Has he been in the Royal Navy?—No.

Does he reside on board the Hospital Ship?—Yes.

Do the Surgeons keep a Journal of the Treatment of the sick?—Yes.

Do the Surgeons or the Assistant Surgeon receive any Rations or Allowance other than their Salaries or Half Pay?—None.

Are the Surgeons or the Assistant permitted to have private Practice?—Only the Surgeons.

Are you of opinion that it would be desirable that the Boys now kept on board the Euryalus should be confined on Shore in a proper Place, instead of on board Ship?—I certainly should prefer their Confinement on Shore.

Would it not be easier on Shore to prevent the better disposed Boys from being contaminated by the more depraved?—Certainly.

Do you think it would be expedient to send them Abroad at an earlier Age than is now the Practice?—I am of opinion that Boys of Fourteen Years of Age and upwards should be sent Abroad.

Does the Chaplain prepare the Boys for Confirmation, and are they confirmed when fit?—No.

What is the Salary of the Chaplain of the Fortitude?—£200 per Annum.

Does he reside on board the Hospital Ship?—Yes.

Does he receive Rations?—No.

Are the Boys vaccinated on Admission?—No.

Would it not be desirable to do so, and could it not be done by the Surgeon without Inconvenience?—Yes.

Is it the Practice to pardon any Boy for good Conduct on board the Euryalus?—Yes, but very limited.

At what Age are they in general transported?—Formerly when they arrived at Fifteen Years of Age, but latterly at Fourteen Years.

Have you any Means of knowing whether the Boys sent from the Euryalus behave well in Australia?—I have not.

Do the Boys often make their Escape?—No; they sometimes make Attempts, but an Escape is of rare Occurrence.

Do you see any Reason why the Chaplain of the Euryalus should not give Two full Services to the Boys on every Sunday?—None.

Do you think that it would be desirable that he should devote not less than Four Hours on the Average per Day to the Duty of the Ship, including Prayers?—I should propose Four Days in each Week for not less than Three Hours on each Day.

Should you recommend that he should explain the Scriptures to the Boys separately or in Classes?—In Classes.

Can you furnish the Committee with a Return of the Number of Boys now on board the Euryalus, with their Ages when admitted, and how long they have been on board, specifying those who could not read and write when admitted, and those who can now do either one or the other?—I can; which I herewith deliver.

The same is read, and is as follows:

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

A RETURN of CONVICT BOYS on board the Euryalus Hulk at Chatham, specifying their respective Ages at the Time of Admission, Length of Confinement, and whether they could read or write at the Period at which they were admitted, or subsequently.

31st May 1835.

No.	Name.	Age.	When admitted.	Servitude on Board.			Read or write on Admission.	Read or write since Admission.
				Years.	Months.	Days.		
1	George Fraser	12	7th Dec. 1830	4	5	24	Neither	Both.
2	Thomas Butterworth	15	25th Jan. 1831	4	4	6	—	—
3	Dugald Wright	14	4th May 1831	4	-	27	Read	—
4	William Carver	12	25th July 1831	3	10	6	—	—
5	George Wright	15	19th Dec. 1831	3	5	12	Both	—
6	Samuel Dearn	8	17th Jan. 1832	3	4	14	Neither	—
7	Martin Fitzgerald	14	31st Jan. 1832	3	4	-	—	—
8	Matthew Dotchin	13	21st March 1832	3	2	10	—	—
9	George Storey	13	2d June 1832	2	11	28	—	Read.
10	Henry James Marshall	15	19th Nov. 1832	2	6	2	Both	Both.
11	Charles Stewart	13	22d Dec. 1832	2	5	9	Read	—
12	Edward Preston	11	18th Jan. 1833	2	4	13	Neither	—
13	George Gibson	9	21st Jan. 1833	2	4	10	—	Read.
14	William Johnson	13	21st Jan. 1833	2	4	10	—	—
15	Alfred Jenkins	12	21st Jan. 1833	2	4	10	Read	—
16	George Wilson	12	5th March 1833	2	2	26	Neither	—
17	John Wright	11	23d April 1833	2	1	8	Read	—
18	Michael Shaw	10	27th April 1833	2	1	4	Neither	—
19	James Roberts	11	27th April 1833	2	1	4	—	—
20	Thomas Jones	11	27th April 1833	2	1	4	—	Both.
21	William Symers	9	23d May 1833	2	-	8	Neither	Read.
22	Nicholas White	9	24th July 1833	1	10	7	—	—
23	William Johnson	12	23d Sept. 1833	1	8	8	—	—
24	Henry Richard Ogilsby	10	30th Oct. 1833	1	7	1	Read	Both.
25	Samuel Ogilsby	8	30th Oct. 1833	1	7	1	Neither	Read.
26	William Davis	13	30th Oct. 1833	1	7	1	—	—
27	Thomas Clayton	12	14th Nov. 1833	1	6	17	—	—
28	John Wolstencroft	13	2d Dec. 1833	1	5	29	—	—
29	Ralph Young	12	2d Dec. 1833	1	5	29	—	—
30	Henry Baldwin	10	28th Dec. 1833	1	5	3	—	—
31	James Wilson	14	28th Dec. 1833	1	5	3	Both	Both.
32	John Axam	13	28th Dec. 1833	1	5	3	Neither	Read.
33	John Holding	13	17th Jan. 1834	1	4	14	—	—
34	Christ. Wm. Roworth	13	17th Jan. 1834	1	4	14	Both	Both.
35	Thomas Hall	11	17th Jan. 1834	1	4	14	Neither	Read.
36	Timothy Connor	15	17th Jan. 1834	1	4	14	—	—
37	William Dunbar	16	27th Jan. 1834	1	4	4	—	—
38	James Harkins	9	18th Feb. 1834	1	3	13	Read	Both.
39	James M'Kinley	16	19th Feb. 1834	1	3	12	Both	—
40	Richard Stratton	14	13th March 1834	1	2	18	Neither	Read.
41	Samuel Nathan	13	21st March 1834	1	2	10	—	—
42	William Cresswell	14	21st March 1834	1	2	10	Read	Both.
43	Thomas James	13	21st March 1834	1	2	10	Neither	Read.
44	William James	12	21st March 1834	1	2	10	—	—
45	Thomas Pickett	14	21st March 1834	1	2	10	—	—
46	Thomas Tow	10	31st March 1834	1	2	-	—	—
47	Ephraim Folly	13	7th April 1834	1	1	24	—	—
48	William Swann	16	16th April 1834	1	1	15	Both	Both.
49	Charles Higginbotham	14	24th April 1834	1	1	7	Neither	Read.
50	William Parker	14	30th April 1834	1	1	1	—	—
51	William Brown	14	2d May 1834	1	-	29	—	—
52	Thomas Phillips	10	2d May 1834	1	-	29	—	Neither.
53	John Gomer	12	2d May 1834	1	-	29	—	Read.
54	Michael Nicholson	11	8th May 1834	1	-	23	—	—
55	George Bonney	16	8th May 1834	1	-	23	—	—
56	Henry Beavan	13	9th May 1834	1	-	22	Read	Both.
57	Robert Jones	15	30th May 1834	1	-	1	—	—
58	Edward Cheetham	13	30th May 1834	1	-	1	—	—
59	John Smith	19	2d June 1834	-	11	29	—	—
60	Benjamin Gawthorne	16	2d June 1834	-	11	29	Neither	Read.
61	Colin M'Millan	14	18th June 1834	-	11	13	—	
62	William George Smith	17	10th July 1834	-	10	21	Read	—
63	James Simmons	14	10th July 1834	-	10	21	Neither	—
64	Joseph Davies	13	12th July 1834	-	10	19	—	—
65	James Loader	14	15th July 1834	-	10	16	—	—
66	George Sawyer	13	15th July 1834	-	10	16	—	—
67	Walter Andrews	14	22d July 1834	-	10	9	Read	Both.

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

No.	Name.	Age.	When admitted.	Servitude on Board.			Read or write on Admission.	Read or write since Admission.
				Years.	Months.	Days.		
68	George Woodgate	16	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Both	Both.
69	John Foster	14	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Read	Read.
70	Jesse Daniels	14	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Neither	—
71	Joseph Baird	14	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	—	—
72	Thomas Head	13	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	—	—
73	Thomas Edwards	16	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Read	—
74	George Walker	13	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Neither	—
75	Thomas Edwards	11	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	—	—
76	John Bateman	16	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Read	—
77	Benjamin Joyce	12	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	Neither	—
78	John Perry	14	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	—	—
79	John Ryan	15	22d July 1834	- -	10	9	—	—
80	Frederic Ash	14	6th Aug. 1834	- -	9	25	Read	—
81	Isaac Wilson	16	6th Aug. 1834	- -	9	25	Neither	—
82	Joseph Wilkinson	13	6th Aug. 1834	- -	9	25	—	—
83	William Sutcliffe	15	6th Aug. 1834	- -	9	25	—	—
84	John Williams	13	8th Aug. 1834	- -	9	23	—	Neither.
85	Thomas Garvey	12	8th Aug. 1834	- -	9	23	—	Read.
86	John Hambleton	14	8th Aug. 1834	- -	9	23	—	—
87	Samuel Shepherd	13	8th Aug. 1834	- -	9	23	—	Neither.
88	Richard Collins	12	9th Aug. 1834	- -	9	22	—	Read.
89	John Clark	14	9th Aug. 1834	- -	9	22	—	—
90	John Walsh	13	9th Aug. 1834	- -	9	22	—	—
91	Walter Morris	14	14th Aug. 1834	- -	9	17	Read	Both.
92	William Hinds	15	22d Aug. 1834	- -	9	9	Neither	Read.
93	Henry Ellis	13	23d Aug. 1834	- -	9	8	—	—
94	James M'Quoy	11	23d Aug. 1834	- -	9	8	—	—
95	William Breacher	14	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	Read	Both.
96	James Fear	13	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	Neither	Read.
97	Henry Butcher	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
98	Timothy Kaylor	14	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
99	William Barton	13	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
100	George Smith	14	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
101	George Brewer	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
102	John Jones	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
103	John Christian Walden	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
104	John Harman	13	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
105	Charles William Poulton	12	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	Read	Both.
106	James Brown	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	Neither	Read.
107	Thomas Brown	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	—
108	Henry Taylor	14	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	Both	Both.
109	George Taylor	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	Neither	Read.
110	Samuel Edwards	15	24th Sept. 1834	- -	8	7	—	Neither
111	James Foster	16	23d Oct. 1834	- -	7	8	—	Read.
112	William Clarke	19	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Both	Both.
113	William Johnson	15	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Read	Read.
114	Henry Eden	18	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	—	—
115	William Clark	16	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Neither	—
116	Henry Wells	15	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Both	Both.
117	Cornelius Bowen	15	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Neither	Read.
118	William West	13	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	—	—
119	Frederic Elliott	14	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	—	—
120	George Smith	13	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	—	Neither.
121	Frederic Mason	14	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Both	Both.
122	George Duke	15	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Read	Read.
123	William John Busby	14	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Both	Both.
124	Patrick Donovan	13	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Neither	Read.
125	Charles Franklin	15	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Read	Both.
126	James Carroll	15	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Both	—
127	Joseph Williams	16	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Read	—
128	Thomas Jesson	14	29th Oct. 1834	- -	7	2	Neither	Neither.
129	Charles Radford	10	18th Nov. 1834	- -	6	13	—	—
130	William Driver	14	19th Nov. 1834	- -	6	12	—	—
131	Thomas Wilson	13	19th Nov. 1834	- -	6	12	Read	Read.
132	William Eyre	15	19th Nov. 1834	- -	6	12	Neither	Neither.
133	Alfred Thir Kettle	14	28th Nov. 1834	- -	6	3	Read	Both.
134	John Bush	9	28th Nov. 1834	- -	6	3	Neither	Neither.
135	John Lee	13	28th Nov. 1834	- -	6	3	—	—
136	Robert Hipper	10	28th Nov. 1834	- -	6	3	—	—
137	Thomas Tench	10	28th Nov. 1834	- -	6	3	—	—
138	James Axtelle	16	2d Dec. 1834	- -	5	29	Read	Both.
139	Henry Cotton	15	2d Dec. 1834	- -	5	29	—	—
140	John Carroll	16	4th Dec. 1834	- -	5	27	—	—
141	Thomas Brown	13	4th Dec. 1834	- -	5	27	Neither	Neither.
142	John Canning	14	11th Dec. 1834	- -	5	20	Both	Both.

681

No. 21. Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

No.	Name.	Age.	When admitted.	Servitude on Board. Years.	Months.	Days.	Read or write on Admission.	Read or write since Admission.
143	James Woodford	16	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Read.	Both.
144	Charles Sharp	13	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	—	—
145	Thomas Sharp	16	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	—	—
146	William Looker	14	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Neither	Neither.
147	James Jones	10	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	—	—
148	John Chaplin	14	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Read	Both.
149	Charles Walker	14	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	—	Read.
150	James Blissett	15	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Neither	Neither.
151	James Smith	15	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Read	Read.
152	John Harris	16	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Neither	Neither.
153	Stephen Johnson	16	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Read	Both.
154	William Johnson	16	11th Dec. 1834		5	20	Neither	Read.
155	Elijah Skeldon	14	17th Jan. 1835		4	14	—	Neither.
156	William Green	14	20th Jan. 1835		4	11	—	—
157	John Anderson	15	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	—	—
158	John Ellwood	15	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	Read	Both.
159	Joseph Barnbrook	14	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	—	—
160	Michael Scully	14	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	—	—
161	Samuel Rolt	14	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	—	Read.
162	Francis Boucher	16	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	—	—
163	John Campbell	14	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	Neither	Neither.
164	Nelson Williams	16	22d Jan. 1835		4	9	Read	Both.
165	Henry Tattersall	14	31st Jan. 1835		4		Neither	Neither.
166	John Foster	14	31st Jan. 1835		4		Read	Both.
167	John Moore	15	31st Jan. 1835		4		Both.	—
168	Charles Milner	16	5th Feb. 1835		3	23	Read.	—
169	Richard Marsden	13	5th Feb. 1835		3	23	Both.	—
170	James Capper	12	14th Feb. 1835		3	14	Neither	Neither.
171	Joseph Bowers	12	14th Feb. 1835		3	14	—	—
172	George Walker	14	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	Both	Both.
173	Daniel Murray	14	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	Neither	Neither.
174	Michael Smith	13	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	—	—
175	Dennis Walker	14	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	Read	Read.
176	Robert Durham	10	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	Neither	Neither.
177	Joseph Newin	15	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	—	—
178	John Mason	13	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	Both	Both.
179	John George Smith	15	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	—	—
180	Michael Driscoll	16	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	—	—
181	William Cook	14	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	Read	Read.
182	William Wise	14	18th Feb. 1835		3	10	—	—
183	James Yardsley	12	3d March 1835		2	28	—	—
184	James Smith	15	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
185	Alexander M'Leod	16	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
186	Angus M'Pherson	14	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
187	Thomas White	13	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
188	James Douglass	15	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
189	Thomas Leckie	12	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
190	Peter Miller	12	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
191	Peter Cairns	14	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
192	Alexander M'Farlane	12	5th March 1835		2	26	Neither	Neither.
193	Alexander Colligan	13	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
194	James Wishart	14	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
195	Bernard Macartney	16	5th March 1835		2	26	Both	Both.
196	William M'Ewan	14	5th March 1835		2	26	Neither	Neither.
197	James M'Artney	15	5th March 1835		2	26	Read	Read.
198	James Hall	16	5th March 1835		2	26	—	—
199	William Branton	12	20th March 1835		2	11	Neither	Neither.
200	Robert Hedgland	15	20th March 1835		2	11	Both	Both.
201	Rowland Bassett	16	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
202	Thomas Barker	14	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
203	John Dunkin	16	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
204	Thomas Phillips	16	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
205	James Leaver	15	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
206	John Darville	14	20th March 1835		2	11	Read	Read.
207	Michael Thompson	14	20th March 1835		2	11	Both	Both.
208	Frederick Arnold	14	20th March 1835		2	11	Read	Read.
209	James Gavagan	11	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
210	John Beasley	16	20th March 1835		2	11	Neither	Neither.
211	Charles Davis	12	20th March 1835		2	11	Read	Read.
212	James Mills	12	20th March 1835		2	11	Neither	Neither.
213	James Scott	12	20th March 1835		2	11	—	—
214	Charles Moore	16	20th March 1835		2	11	Both	Both.
215	William Dowling	13	20th March 1835		2	11	Neither	Neither.
216	William Dickson	14	10th April 1835		1	21	Read	Read.

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

No.	Name.	Age.	When admitted.	Servitude on Board.			Read or write on Admission.	Read or write since Admission.
				Years	Months.	Days.		
217	Hugh Grant	12	10th April 1835		1	21	Read	Read.
218	George Handyside	15	10th April 1835		1	21	Both	Both.
219	George Gunn	13	10th April 1835		1	21	Read	Read.
220	James Russell	15	10th April 1835		1	21	Both	Both.
221	William Vair	13	10th April 1835		1	21	Read	Read.
222	Joseph Burgoyne	16	10th April 1835		1	21	—	—
223	George Robertson	16	10th April 1835		1	21	—	—
224	John Cameron	16	10th April 1835		1	21	Neither	Neither.
225	John M'Kay	15	10th April 1835		1	21	Read	Read.
226	Joseph Gell	13	24th April 1835		1	7	—	—
227	John Murphy	13	27th April 1835		1	4	—	—
228	Peter Conley	15	27th April 1835		1	4	Neither	Neither.
229	George Hickman	15	27th April 1835		1	4	Both	Both.
230	Charles Downes	14	27th April 1835		1	4	Neither	Neither.
231	George Millett	12	27th April 1835		1	4	Both	Both.
232	George Bosworth	14	27th April 1835		1	4	Read	Read.
233	Henry Underwood	15	27th April 1835		1	4	—	—
234	Joseph Sherlock	15	27th April 1835		1	4	Both	Both.
235	Thomas O'Donnell	13	27th April 1835		1	4	Neither	Neither.
236	Henry Thompson	15	27th April 1835		1	4	Read	Read.
237	James Spencer	13	27th April 1835		1	4	Read	Read.
238	Thomas Jones	15	5th May 1835			26	Neither	Neither.
239	John Astley	14	5th May 1835			26	—	—
240	William Webb	15	5th May 1835			26	Read	Read.
241	Thomas Hammond	16	5th May 1835			26	Neither	Neither.
242	Thomas Bell	11	5th May 1835			26	—	—
243	George Bould	15	5th May 1835			26	Read	Read.
244	Joseph Welch	14	7th May 1835			24	—	—
245	William Powell	15	7th May 1835			24	Neither	Neither.
246	Reuben Heaton	14	7th May 1835			24	—	—
247	Robert Phair	11	8th May 1835			23	—	—
248	George Sotheran	13	9th May 1835			22	Read	Read.
249	John Polkey	13	27th May 1835			3	Both	Both.
250	John Hallam	14	27th May 1835			3	Read	Read.
251	William Conner	16	30th May 1835			1	Neither	Neither.
252	Henry Ware	16	30th May 1835			1	Read	Read.
253	Thomas Lattimer	15	30th May 1835			1	Both	Both.
254	George Webster	13	30th May 1835			1	Neither	Neither.
255	Sidney Sadler	11	30th May 1835			1	—	—
256	Stephen Lockyer	16	30th May 1835			1	Both	Both.
257	Charles West	16	30th May 1835			1	Neither	Neither.
258	Robert Spencer	13	30th May 1835			1	—	—

Are they frequently punished?—Not often.

When the Friends or Parents of the Boys are admitted on board, are they permitted to see them alone?—No, an Officer or Guard being always present.

Is any Inquiry instituted as to the Characters of the Visitors?—None but Relatives are allowed to visit them.

Do the Boys receive any Portion of their Earnings?—None.

Are any of the Boys permitted to land at the Dockyard or to go into the Town?—No.

Can they communicate with the Men Convicts?—No.

In your Opinion does this System pursued on board the Euryalus reform many of the Boys?—It is very doubtful.

Do you think that when an Order is sent to a Convict Hulk for a certain Number of Men to be sent Abroad that the present System of Selection is the best that could be adopted?—The Practice now pursued will obviate any Irregularity, as all Prisoners will be sent Abroad in regular Succession, unless ordered to be detained by special Authority from the Home Department.

What was the Expense of fitting up the Fortitude as a Convict Ship?—12,500*l.* was the Amount paid to the Navy Board for the Ship and Fitting.

What was the Expense of fitting up the Euryalus as a Convict Ship?—8,100*l.*

What was the Expense of fitting up the Wye as an Hospital Ship?—900*l.* It should be observed that this Ship was fitted up by the Prisoners, and no Charge was made by the Navy Board for the Hull.

Please to deliver in your Reports dated the 10th of July 1834 and 29th January 1835.

The Witness delivers them in; they are read, and are as follow:

Two Reports of John Henry Capper Esq., Superintendent of Ships and Vessels employed for the Confinement of Offenders under Sentence of Transportation.

No. 1.

Report of John Henry Capper Esq., Superintendent of Ships and Vessels employed for the Confinement of Offenders under Sentence of Transportation; — dated 10th July 1834.

My Lord, Whitehall, 10th July 1834.

I have the Honour of reporting to your Lordship, that the Convicts confined in the Hulks in England have, with few Exceptions, continued orderly since my last Report.

The principal Officers have fulfilled their respective Duties in a satisfactory Manner and the Officers of the Dockyards and Ordnance Works, where the Prisoners have been employed, have expressed their Approbation of the Exertions of the Convicts in Performing the various Tasks of Labour which they have been called to fulfil.

The Convicts generally have been healthy, but the State in which many of them are brought to the Hulks from the Gaols, totally unfit for Transportation, will naturally account for many Deaths.

Since the Reduction of the Number of Convict Boys, by the Transportation of the elder ones, considerable Improvement has manifested itself in the Behaviour of the younger Boys.

I have also the Satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship, that the Convicts now at Bermuda, carrying on the Public Works, continue orderly and healthy, which is confirmed by recent Reports from Sir Thomas Ussher, the Superintendent of the Naval Yard at that Station.

The Reduction in the Number of the Convict Hulks at Home, which I noticed in my former Report was then in Progress, has since been carried into effect; and which Hulks have been delivered over to the Naval Department.

I have the Honour to enclose the Chaplains Reports; also an Account of the Expense of the Convict Hulks in England from the 1st January to the 30th June last; together with an Estimate of the Prisoners Labour during that Period, the Average Number of Convicts daily on board the respective Hulks, and the Number of Days Labour performed by such Convicts.

I also enclose a similar Account of the Expense and Earnings of the Convicts at Bermuda from the 1st July to the 31st December last.

I have the Honour to be,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's faithful most obedient humble Servant,
John Henry Capper.

The Right Honourable Viscount Melbourne.

Enclosure (A.) in No. 1.

Sir, Portsmouth, 8th July 1834.

The general Behaviour of the Convicts confined in this Harbour has been satisfactory during the last Half Year. The unusual Number of Arrivals and Transmissions of Prisoners, and the many Changes that have taken place among the Officers, have not materially deranged the State of Discipline on board the Hulks.

This Circumstance seems to afford a decisive Proof of the Excellence of the present Regulations.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm. Tate, A. M., Chaplain.

John Henry Capper, Esq.
Superintendent of Convicts.

Enclosure (B.) in No. 1.

Sir, Fortitude Convict Hulk, Chatham, 7th July 1834.

It being incumbent upon me to report to you the Demeanour of the Convicts under my ministerial Charge during the last Six Months, I shall endeavour to discharge the Task, though, from the Weekly Returns, and your frequent Visits to this Port, there cannot be much for me to add to that Information of which you are already in Possession.

On a Review of the Offences recorded, considering the Number of Prisoners who have passed through this Ship for Transportation during the last Six Months, I cannot but deem the Offences against the Orders and Regulations of the Service as few; and I can bear my Testimony to the orderly and attentive Conduct of the Men during Divine Service, with scarcely an Exception. As to their Moral and Religious Improvement, I feel a Difficulty in hazarding an Opinion, having no Opportunity of judging of their Conduct when liberated: and though we cannot but look favourably on their uniform good Behaviour while under Restraint,

No. 21. Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

Restraint, yet the evil Spirit which predominated before may still remain unmortified, which can only be proved by their continuing to resist the Temptations which beset them when at Liberty.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,
Henry Wynter, Chaplain.

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts.

Enclosure (C.) in No. 1.

Sir, Euryalus Convict Hulk, Chatham, 2d July 1834.

The Boys, with very few Exceptions, have continued to behave exceedingly well. They have generally been attentive to their Learning, diligent while at work, and have evinced great Propriety of Demeanour at Divine Service. It is my constant Aim to induce them to be good from Motives derived from higher Considerations than any merely temporal Advantages, though these are by no means lost sight of; and I trust that the Seed which is now sown in their youthful Minds will not be entirely thrown away. Great Praise is due to the Overseer for the excellent State of Discipline in which the Ship is at this present Time.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your faithful and obedient Servant,
H. J. Dawes, Chaplain.

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts.

Enclosure (D.) in No. 1.

Sir, Woolwich, 8th July 1834.

I regret that an Opportunity should be afforded me of stating that the Number of Offences committed by Prisoners on board the Ganymede and Leven Hulks, during the last Quarter, exceeds any preceding one which it has fallen to my Lot to comment upon.

It is nevertheless to a certain Extent gratifying to be able to qualify this unfavourable Statement by remarking that the Majority of the Offences are of a trivial Nature, and that out of Four and twenty Offences there appear to be the Names of but Two Individuals who have before been reported for violating the Rules and Regulations of the Establishment.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,
W. Quarterman, Chaplain.

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts.

Enclosure (E.) in No. 1.

AN ACCOUNT showing the EXPENSE of the CONVICT HULK ESTABLISHMENT in ENGLAND, from the 1st of January to the 30th of June 1834; also the estimated Value of the Prisoners Labour, the Average Number of Convicts daily on board each Place of Confinement, and the Number of Days Labour performed by such Convicts; distinguishing Artificers from Labourers.

Name of the Ship.	Station.	Expense.	Average Number daily on Board.	Number of Days' Labour performed.	Number of Artificers employed.	Number of Labourers employed.	Rate per Diem.	Artificers and Labourers Earnings separately.	Total Value of Labour performed at each Ship.
		£ s. d.						£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Leviathan	Portsmouth	3,421 18 9	513	154	1,426	- -	1/6	106 19 0	
					Excavators 5,580		1/6	418 10 0	
					52,964		1/	2,648 0 0	
									3,173 9 0
York	Gosport	3,671 15 3	548	154	1,073	- -	1/6	80 9 6	
					61,911		1/	3,095 11 0	
									3,176 0 6
Hardy*	Tipnor	193 2 0	50	76	142	- -	1/6	10 13 0	
					2,870		1/	143 10 0	
									154 3 0
Captivity*	Devonport	688 4 3	218	76	- -	13,009	1/	- - -	650 9 0
Retribution*	Sheerness	842 0 6	250	76	- -	15,451	1/	- - -	772 11 6
Fortitude	Chatham	4,318 5 11	607	154	5,513	- -	1/6	413 9 6	
					Excavators 3,842		1/6	288 3 0	
					63,136		1/	3,156 16 0	
									3,858 8 6
Euryalus	Chatham	1,550 14 0	245	{ Boys employed in making Clothing and various Articles for the Prisoners Use.					
Justitia	Woolwich	4,074 1 3	486	155	3,655	- -	1/6	274 2 6	
					Excavators 5,046		1/6	378 9 0	
					38,259		1/	1,912 19 0	
									2,565 10 6
Ganymede	Woolwich	2,396 4 1	389	153	2,985	- -	1/6	216 1 6	
					Excavators 2,045		1/6	153 7 6	
					51,572		1/	2,579 2 0	
									2,948 11 0
Superannuation Allowances		1,297 18 10							
Superintendent's Salary		200 0 0							
Contingent Charges		295 12 6							
	£	22,949 17 4						£	17,299 3 0

* These Three Hulks were abolished on the 1st of April 1834.

Enclosure (F.) in No. 1.

AN ACCOUNT showing the EXPENSE of the CONVICT HULK ESTABLISHMENT at BERMUDA, from the 1st of July to the 31st of December 1833; also the estimated Value of the Prisoners Labour, and the Average Number of Prisoners daily on board each Hulk; distinguishing Artificers from Labourers.

Name.	Station.	Expense.	Average Number daily on Board.	Number of Days Labour performed.	Number of Artificers employed.	Number of Labourers employed.	Rate per Diem.	Value of Labour performed.	Total.
		£ s. d.						£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antelope -	St. George's -	2,897 11 2	275	156	1,672	- -	2/	167 4 0	
						17,577	2/	1,757 14 0	
									1,924 18 0
Dromedary -	Ireland Island	4,486 8 7	350	156	8,912	- -	2/	891 4 0	
						38,172	2/	3,817 4 0	
									4,708 8 0
Coromandel -	Ireland Island	3,591 4 4	280	156	3,526	- -	2/	352 12 0	
						37,288	2/	3,728 16 0	
									4,081 8 0
Weymouth -	Ireland Island	2,891 0 4	235	156	3,097	- -	2/	309 14 0	
						28,206	2/	2,820 12 0	
									3,130 6 0
	£	13,866 4 7						£	13,845 0 0

No. 2.

REPORT of JOHN HENRY CAPPER Esq., Superintendent of Ships and Vessels employed for the Confinement of Offenders under Sentence of Transportation;— dated 29th January 1835. *J. H. Capper, Esq.*

Sir, Whitehall, 29th January 1835.

I have the Honour of reporting upon the State of the Convict Hulks, the Behaviour of the Prisoners, and the Conduct of the Officers employed therein.

The Convicts have in general conducted themselves very orderly, and have been obedient to the Regulations. They have been fully employed by the Naval Department in the Dockyards at Portsmouth, Chatham, and Woolwich, upon various Occupations of Labour, and some few have been employed by the Ordnance. They have continued to give Satisfaction to the Officers superintending the Works upon which they have been employed.

The Officers belonging to the several Hulks have (with One Exception) been attentive to their respective Duties.

The Prisoners have been healthy during the last Year, and the Deaths have been comparatively few, notwithstanding, as noticed in my former Reports, the great Number of Prisoners brought to the Hulks in a very infirm and decrepid Condition from old Age and frequently in a diseased State, which consequently leaves many wholly unfit for either Transportation or Labour.

I have great Satisfaction in reporting that the Convicts confined in the Hulks at Bermuda have, in carrying on the Public Works under the Naval and Ordnance Departments in those Islands, behaved orderly, and been usefully and constantly employed, as will appear by the accompanying Return of the Labour performed, which has been founded upon a Valuation transmitted to me by Commodore Sir Thomas Ussher, the Superintendent of the Dockyard at that Place.

I have the Honour to enclose the Chaplains Reports, and also an Account of the Expense of each Place of Confinement in England, between the 1st July and 31st December last; together with the estimated Value of the Prisoners Labour within that Period, the Average Number of Convicts daily on board the several Hulks, and the Number of Days Labour performed by such Convicts. I also enclose a similar Statement of the Convict Hulks at Bermuda between the 1st January and 30th June last.

On the 1st January 1834 there were 3,060 Prisoners on board the Hulks in England, since which Date there have been received at the respective Depôts 4,374: of the whole Number 4,032 have been transported to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, 702 have been discharged, 142 have died, 2 have escaped, and 2,556 remained in the Hulks on the 1st of January instant.

I have the Honour to remain,
Sir,
Your most obedient faithful humble Servant,
JOHN HENRY CAPPER.

The Right Honourable Henry Goulburn, &c. &c. &c.

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships, and in Chatham Dockyard.
—
J. H. Capper, Esq.

Enclosure (A.) in No. 2.

Sir, Portsea, 8th January 1835.

The Hulks in this Harbour continue in the same satisfactory State of Discipline in which I have frequently reported them before. The Mode, long since adopted, of arranging the Wards so as to place the Convicts under direct Inspection of every Officer going through the open Passages at any Time either of Day or Night, is a complete Check upon improper Language and disorderly Conduct. When, indeed, the Convicts themselves are once convinced that all due Encouragement is given to the well-behaved, and strict Authority exercised over Evil-doers, even the most depraved are soon led to appreciate the Advantages of Order and Obedience.

I have the Honour to be,
Sir,
Your faithful and obedient Servant,

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts. } *Wm. Tate*, A.M., Chaplain.

Enclosure (B.) in No. 2.

Sir, Wye Convict Hulk, Chatham, 6th January 1835.

I beg to lay before you a Report of the Convicts under my ministerial Charge, and am happy to say that they demean themselves much better than Persons not acquainted with the System pursued would credit. Since my Residence close to the Dockyard I have had an Opportunity of observing the Men at their daily Labour, which they pursue with a becoming Order and Diligence. I admit, Sir, that with regard to a Change of Principles, and real Reformation, the Success is not to the Extent one could wish; but in Justice I must add, that there are Cases which appear to me satisfactory on that Point; while the Number who are taught to read and brought under Scriptural Instruction while here, will, when transported to the Colonies, we have reason to hope, become much better Subjects than if they had left the Country without these Benefits.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts. } *Henry Wynter*, Chaplain.

Enclosure (C.) in No. 2.

Sir, Euryalus Convict Hulk, Chatham, 5th January 1835.

In fulfilling my Duty of reporting to you on the Conduct of the unfortunate Youths imprisoned in the Euryalus, I am enabled to use the Language of general Commendation.

It will not indeed be expected that in so large an Assemblage of Children, tutored in Crime as most of these unhappily have been, no Instances of Misconduct would occur; in truth, during the last Six Months numerous Offences have been registered, but many of these were of a venial Description, though I am bound to add that there have been some of an aggravated Character. If, however, a few such discouraging Cases are to be found, there are others which justify a sanguine Hope of permanent Amendment.

I have frequently thought it right to notice the Propriety of the Prisoners Demeanour while in Chapel; I have now the Pleasure of stating that in this respect they deserve the highest Praise.

Nothing can exceed the Order and Quietness observed, as indeed at all other Times, so more especially on those Occasions when, in humble Reliance on Divine Assistance, the Endeavour has been made to instil into their youthful Minds that "Fear of the Lord by which Men depart from Evil."

The School continues to afford to the Boys the Opportunities of Elementary Instruction, and not a few it is believed have profited by them; as here also the Inculcation of Religious Principle is made a prominent Part of the System, it is but reasonable to suppose that some Benefit will be the Result.

It is truly gratifying to observe the respectful and submissive Behaviour of the Prisoners at all Times to those who are placed in Authority over them. In Conclusion, I beg to say that they have been, as I am informed, very industrious while at work, and thus they have been acquiring those, it is to be hoped, lasting Habits of Diligence which cannot fail to prove of great Value to them hereafter.

I am, Sir,
Your faithful and obedient Servant,

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts. } *H. J. Dawes*, Chaplain.

687

No. 21.
Evidence taken on board the Convict Ships and in Chatham Dockyard.

J. H. Capper, Esq.

Enclosure (D.) in No. 2.

Sir, Woolwich, 2d January 1835.

In consequence of the Convict Establishment at Sheerness having been last Year broken up, and my Services transferred to this Place, I can only speak in general Terms of the Moral Conduct of the Prisoners confided to my Spiritual Charge; but from my personal Observation during the short Time I have been with them, and from the Report made to me by the Officers of the Ship, their Behaviour for the last Six Months has been very praiseworthy.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts. } *T. Price*, Chaplain.

Enclosure (E.) in No. 2.

Sir, Woolwich, 10th January 1835.

The Report I have to make on the present Occasion is much more favourable than the last. There have been but few Offences committed during the last Six Months, and those chiefly of a trivial Nature; and, as far as I am enabled to judge, I should say that the System of Discipline now carried on in the Ganymede and Leven Hulks is superior to what it has been at any former Period since I have been connected with the Service.

I remain,
My dear Sir,
Yours very truly,

John Henry Capper, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts. } *W. Quarterman*, Chaplain.

Enclosure (F.) in No. 2.

AN ACCOUNT showing the EXPENSE of the CONVICT HULK ESTABLISHMENT in ENGLAND, from the 1st of July to the 31st of December 1834; also the estimated Value of the Prisoners Labour, the Average Number of Convicts daily on board each Place of Confinement, and the Number of Days Labour performed by such Convicts; distinguishing Artificers from Labourers.

Name of the Ship.	Station.	Expense.	Average Number daily on Board.	Number of Days Labour performed.	Number of Artificers employed.	Number of Labourers employed.	Rate per Diem.	Artificers and Labourers Earnings separately.	Total Value of the Earnings of each Ship.
		£ s. d.						£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Leviathan	Portsmouth	3,840 3 0	473	157	2,747 Excavators	- -	1/6	206 0 6	
						779	1/6	58 8 6	
						59,411	1/	2,970 11 0	
									3,235 0 0
York	Gosport	3,343 8 9	427	157	892	- -	1/6	66 18 0	
						47,728	1/	2,386 8 0	
									2,453 6 0
Fortitude	Chatham	5,076 9 10	643	157	4,584 Excavators	- -	1/6	343 16 0	
						2,607	1/6	145 10 6	
						73,895	1/	3,744 15 0	
									4,234 1 6
Euryalus	Chatham	1,271 15 5	230	Boys employed making Clothing and other Articles for the Prisoners Use.					
Justitia	Woolwich	4,216 0 5	545	157	2,432 Excavators	- -	1/6	182 8 0	
						4,108	1/6	308 2 0	
						44,930	1/	2,246 10 0	
									2,737 0 0
Ganymede	Woolwich	2,470 3 8	405	157	2,394 Excavators	-	1/6	179 11 0	
						3,190	1/6	239 5 0	
						54,926	1/	2,746 6 0	
									3,165 2 0
Superannuation Allowances		1,477 17 6							
Superintendent's Salary		200 0 0							
Contingent Charges		321 5 0							
	£	22,317 3 7						£	15,824 9 6

Enclosure (G.) in No. 2.

AN ACCOUNT showing the EXPENSE of the CONVICT HULK ESTABLISHMENT at BERMUDA, from the 1st of January to the 30th of June 1834; also the estimated Value of the Prisoners Labour, and the Average Number of Prisoners daily on board each Hulk; distinguishing Artificers from Labourers.

Name.	Station.	Expense.	Average Number daily on Board.	Number of Days Labour performed.	Number of Artificers employed.	Number of Labourers employed.	Rate per Diem.	Value of Labour performed.	Total.
		£ s. d.						£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antelope -	St. George's -	2,214 18 4	266	155	3,646	- -	2/	364 12 0	
					Diving-bell Men -	4,760	2/	476 0 0	
						26,428	2/	2,642 16 0	
									3,483 8 0
Dromedary -	Ireland Island	3,202 0 4	368	155	14,894	- -	2/	1,489 8 0	
						37,204	2/	3,720 8 0	
									5,209 16 0
Coromandel -	Ireland Island	2,567 1 11	300	155	3,379	- -	2/	337 18 0	
						37,399	2/	3,739 18 0	
									4,077 16 0
Weymouth -	Ireland Island	2,079 13 6	251	155	3,076	- -	2/	307 12 0	
					Diving-bell Men -	1,794	2/	179 8 0	
						30,572	2/	3,057 4 0	
									3,544 4 0
	£	10,063 14 1						£	16,315 4 0

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to To-morrow, One o'Clock.

N. B.—The Evidence taken at Chatham was not on Oath.

No. 22. Extracts from Evidence of A. Duff, Esq., before Select Committee of House of Commons on Prisons in Scotland.

No. 22.

EXTRACTS from the EVIDENCE of ADAM DUFF, Esquire, given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the State of Prisons in Scotland, 18th April, 1826. *

Will you explain to the Committee the Law of Scotland with respect to the Burdens of erecting and maintaining Prisons?—The Burden of erecting and maintaining Prisonsis at present laid entirely on the Burghs. The Liability has been imposed on them in consequence of a special Statute, 1597, Cap. 277; previously to that Statute the Burghs were only bound to receive Prisoners committed by their own Magistrates. Originally every local Jurisdiction, whether Baron, Feudal Lord, or Burgh, had a Prison for committing Offenders within the Jurisdiction, for the Jurisdiction and the Privileges could not have been maintained without such Prison; most of the Burghs were also under the Protection of a King's Castle belonging to the King. In these Castles Criminals arrested by the Coroner were confined. The Statute 1487, Cap. 101, provided that all Trespassers arrested by the Crown should, if there was no Castle to receive them, be kept by the Sheriff, in default of their own Goods, at the King's Expense, until Trial; but in 1597 a special Statute, Cap. 277, was passed which proceeds on the Assumption, that for Want of sufficient Prisons, Castles, and Ward-houses, sundry Rebels and Transgressors of the Law, as well Criminal as Civil, escape unpunished, and Justice is contemned; this Statute therefore ordains that Prisons should be built, upheld, and maintained by the Provost, Bailiffs, and Communities of the Burghs upon their own Common Good, that is, their Landed Property, or otherwise upon the Charges of the Burgh. This Burden of building Gaols, however, was not for the First Time imposed on Burghs by this Statute, but the Statute further obliged the Burghs to receive into their Prisons all Persons presented by the King's Officers, Sheriffs, or Stewards, and Baillies of Regalities, or by the Executors of Captions, and to keep them at the Prisoners own Expense. The Burghs were at this Time wealthy, and enjoyed not only Common Good or Landed Property, which most, if not all of them, had received from the Crown, but also exclusive Privileges as to Trade; and this Burden was, I dare say, imposed upon the Burghs to relieve the Crown, which had been much impoverished by the lavish Grants made in the Minority of James the Sixth, and the

* See Page 351 of Evidence.

Crown

Crown was too weak to impose this Burden on the Barons. Since the passing of this Statute, therefore, it has been held that the Expense of erecting and maintaining Prisons is a Burden on the Burghs. This Burden when first imposed was trifling when compared with the Privileges as to Trade enjoyed by the Burghs; but the Situation of the Burghs is now much altered, for these Privileges in point of Trade have been much impaired, and may almost be considered as at an End along with other Monopolies. At the Time when this Statute was passed, Imprisonment was scarcely known in Scotland as a Punishment for Crime. In Cases of Tumult or of State Crimes Imprisonment was not uncommon; but it was either before or without Trial, and in the Castle of the King or of the Barons. Ordinary Delinquents were seldom imprisoned before Trial, and when convicted they were generally sentenced to Death or Corporal Punishment, or were found liable in a Fine to be brought in and applied to the King's Use. Imprisonment, when ordered, was an Imprisonment to remain at the King's Will. There has been no Statute tending to relieve the Burghs from the Expense of erecting and maintaining Gaols passed except the Statute 59 George III. Cap. 61., which enables Counties to give Aid to Burghs for the Purpose of improving, enlarging, or of building their Gaols, but this Statute is not compulsory on Counties.

Are you aware whether Sheriffs, prior to the Abolition of Heritable Jurisdictions, had Gaols belonging to them?—Every Lord of Heritable Jurisdiction had a Gaol to enforce his Authority, and the Sheriffs, I suppose, also had Gaols at that Time.

At that Time the Sheriffs were Heritable Officers, possessing the Office by Succession?—Yes.

Then they must have had Gaols?—Yes.

What Prisoners under Criminal Warrants are the Gaols of Burghs bound to receive?—They are bound to receive all Prisoners under Criminal Warrants, in consequence of the Statute 1597.

To whatever County the Magistrate granting the Warrant belongs?—Only of their own County.

And also from the Court of Justiciary?—And also from the Court of Justiciary; that is in consequence of the Universality of the Jurisdiction. The Court of Justiciary's Jurisdiction extends all over Scotland.

What Debtors are liable to be imprisoned in the particular Prisons of Scotland?—The Burgh Gaol next to the Place where the Warrant is put in force against the Debtor is bound to receive him.

What is the Responsibility with respect to Debtors?—If the Debtors escape, the Magistrates of the Burgh are liable for the Debt, even though the Debtor should immediately be retaken, and although the Creditor should not be able to prove that he had suffered any Damage from the Escape.

What is reckoned an Escape in Scotland?—A Man getting out of Gaol, and it is even very doubtful how far a Debtor can be allowed the Use or Privilege of any Airing Ground attached to a Prison. I believe that in Two Gaol Acts there is a Clause specially allowing Debtors the Use of Airing Grounds, and declaring that a Debtor taking the Use of the Airing Ground shall not be held an Escape.

In the Event of his being sick, is there any Remedy?—Then he gets out on a Sick Bill; there must be a Certificate of his Sickness, and of his being in Danger from Confinement.

On whose Authority is that done; who judges of the Certificate?—The Magistrates of the Burgh.

Is this Matter regulated by any particular Ordinance?—Yes; it is regulated by Act of Sederunt of the Court of Session, 14th June 1671.

As to the Aliment of Prisoners, and, in the first place, of Criminal Prisoners; who aliments them?—It appears from the Two Scotch Statutes already mentioned, 1487, Cap. 101, and 1597, Cap. 277, the Criminal Offenders, if they had Funds of their own, were then maintained at their own Expense. But the Burden of alimenting Prisoners who have no Funds of their own has, subsequently to the Statute of 1597, fallen on the Burghs; for the Burghs were bound to receive the Prisoner, and having received him, they were bound to keep him from starving, and were not entitled to set him at Liberty. It is settled in Law, that previous to Trial the Aliment of Prisoners is paid either by the Borough or the County, according as the Offence charged has been committed within or without the Borough. This is settled by the Statute, 11th George I. Cap. 26., called the Disarming Act, which gives Freeholders a Power of assessing the Counties in such a Sum as they shall judge reasonable and sufficient for defraying the Charges of apprehending Criminals in their County, and of subsisting them when apprehended, and of prosecuting them: but it is doubtful how far this Statute is compulsory on the Freeholders, and the general Opinion is, that it only gives them the Power of assessing the County at their own Discretion. With respect to Aliment of Prisoners after Conviction, it has been settled by a late Case, Ramsay against the Magistrates of Dundee and others, that the Burghs are liable in the Aliment of all Criminal Prisoners after Conviction. In that Case, Ramsay and others were sentenced by Judgment of the Sheriff of Forfarshire to be imprisoned in the Gaol of Dundee for Three Months, and until they should find Caution or Security to keep the Peace. Having no Funds of their own to aliment them, they brought an Action against the Magistrates of Dundee, the Sheriff, Procurator Fiscal, Convener of Commissioners of Supply, and Collector of the Land Tax as representing the Crown

No. 22. Extracts from Evidence of A. Duff, Esq., before Select Committee of House of Commons on Prisons in Scotland.

Crown. The Purpose of the Action was to have it ascertained which of the Defenders were liable in the Aliment of the Prisoners. The Case came before the First Division of the Court of Session, who considered it as a Question of great Importance; they consulted the Judges of the Second Division, and also the Permanent Lords Ordinary, and after receiving these Opinions, they found the Magistrates of Dundee alone liable.

Do the Terms used in the Disarming Act enjoin the Freeholders to assess themselves, or only empower them?—They only declare, it shall and may be lawful for the Freeholders, and therefore only empower, and do not require them.

If Freeholders were to refuse to lay on the Assessment, from what Funds would Prisoners under Criminal Warrants be maintained?—I know of no Fund out of which they could in that Case be maintained.

With respect to Debtors, how are they maintained by the Law of Scotland?—Burghs originally were bound as having received them.

Who are more recently bound by the Law of Scotland?—By the Statute 1696 and a late Statute the Burden now lies on the Creditor.

Are there any Means provided by Law by which the Debtor can compel the Creditor to aliment himself?—He applies to the Magistrates under the Act of Grace, 1696, Cap. 32, requiring the Magistrates to have the Creditor ordained to aliment him, and the Magistrates to fix the Aliment.

Is there any Period at which the Aliment was to be ascertained?—He could not apply for it until he had been Ten Days in Prison, and when he applied the Creditor might oppose it on the Ground of the Debtor having Funds of his own.

How was he maintained during these Ten Days?—He was maintained at the Expense of the Burgh, if he had no Funds of his own.

Was there any legal Obligation on the Burgh to maintain?—There was no other Obligation than this, that the Man could not be allowed to starve.

That was an Obligation of Humanity, and not of Law?—Not of Law.

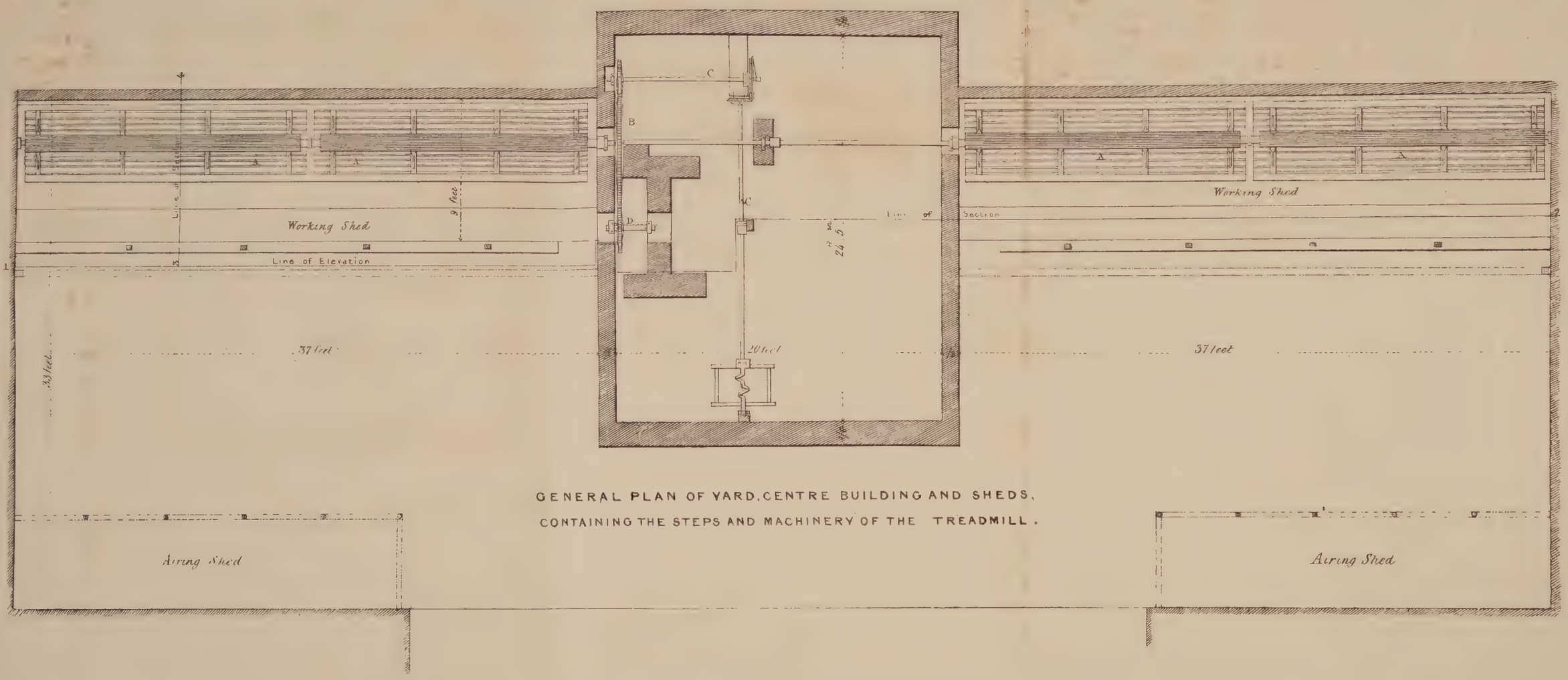
Has there been any late Remedy?—Yes, the Statute 6 George IV. Cap. 62. has provided a complete Remedy.

Of what Nature?—It prohibits any Gaoler from incarcerating a Debtor, unless the Creditor Incarcerator deposits Ten Shillings for the Debtor's Aliment during these Ten Days.

1

PLAN of the TREADMILL in the PENITENTIARY HOUSE of GLOUCESTER COUNTY PRISON.

(Referred to in N° 17 of the Appendix.)



GENERAL PLAN OF YARD, CENTRE BUILDING AND SHEDS, CONTAINING THE STEPS AND MACHINERY OF THE TREADMILL.

A.A *Treadmill Steps worked by the Prisoners divided into twenty compartments on each side of the centre Building*

B. *The large Treadmill Wheel 8 feet diameter.*

C. *Small Shaft and Wheels working the Pump Engine which supplies the Cisterns of the Prison with Water.*

D. *Small decreasing Wheel and Axle communicating with the Pit Wheel E.*

Scale of Feet.

Thomas Fulljames,
Architect & County Surveyor.
Gloucester 1835.

439. Ordered by the House of Commons to be Printed 28th July, 1835.
James & Luke G. Hansard & Sons Printers

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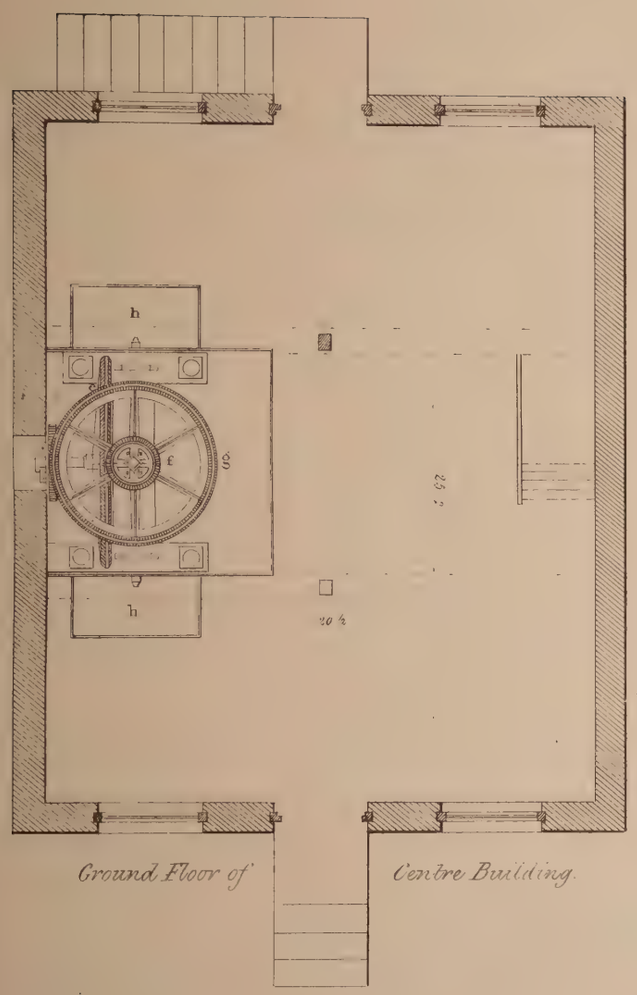
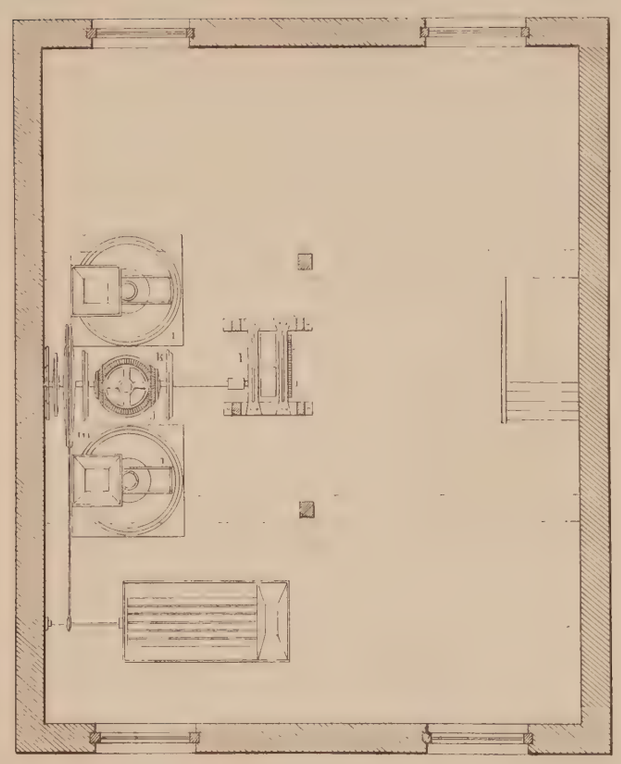
2.

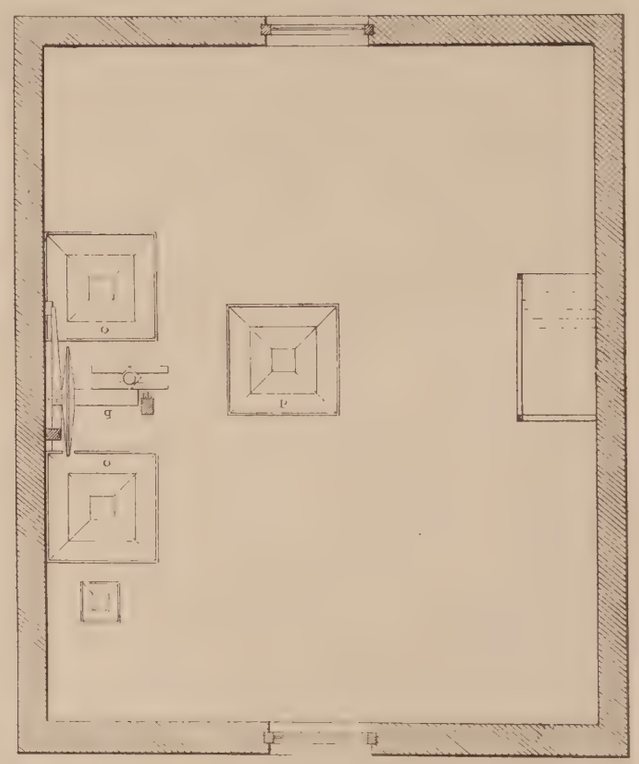
PLAN of the TREADMILL in the PENITENTIARY HOUSE of GLOUCESTER COUNTY PRISON.



Ground Floor of Centre Building.



First Floor of Centre Building.



Second Floor of Centre Building

e. *The Pit Wheel 8 feet diameter*
f. *The foot wheel on upright shaft.*
g. *The spur wheel acting on grind stones.*
h. *The meal bins.*
i. *The hoops, containing the mill stones.*
j. *The Crown wheel*
k. *Small wheels, one to turn a windlass for raising sacks to upper story, the other to turn the bean mill*
l. *The bean mill*
m. *The fly driving the bolting mill.*
n. *The bolting mill*
o. *Corn bins, or feeders.*
p. *Feeder to bean mill.*
q. *Windlass for raising sacks.*

Thomas Fallgames.
Architect & County Surveyor,
Gloucester, 1835.

Scale 4 feet to an Inch.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 15 20 ft

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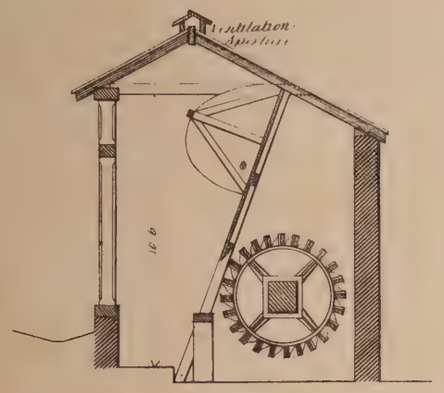
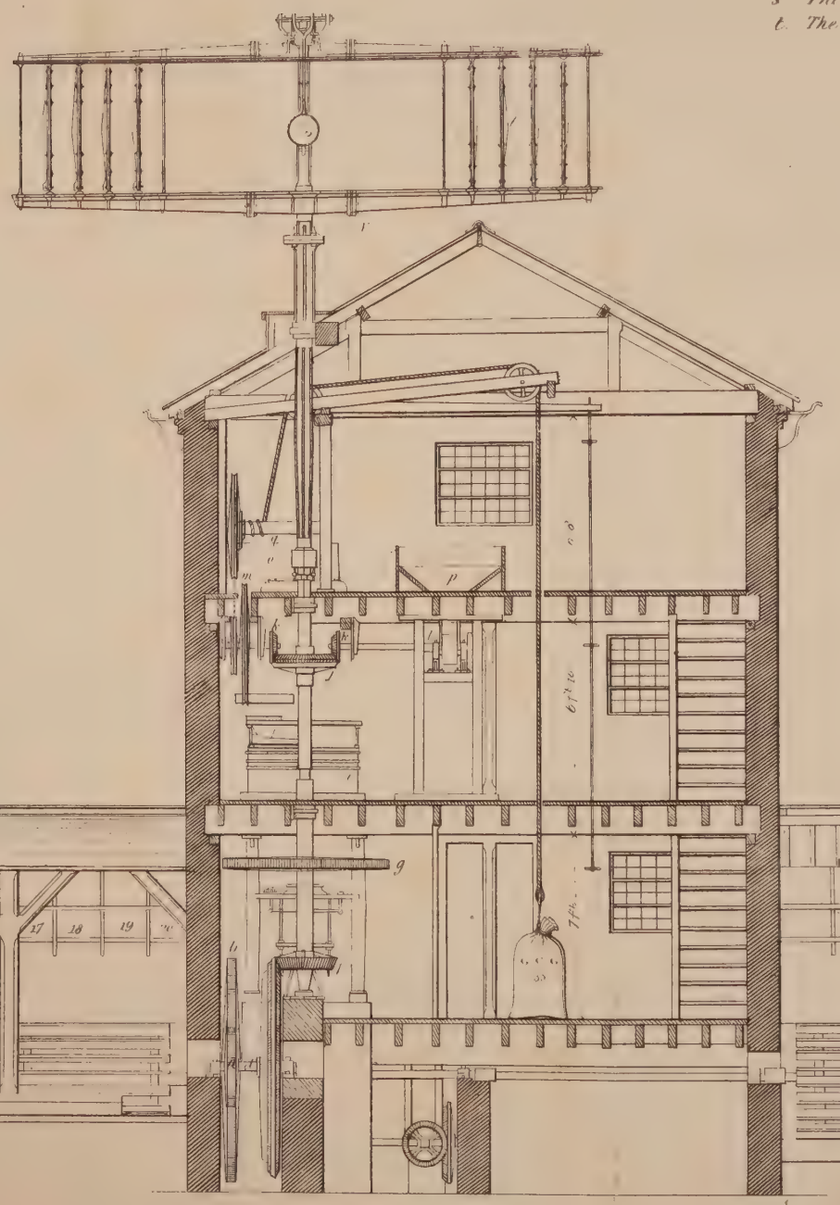
3.

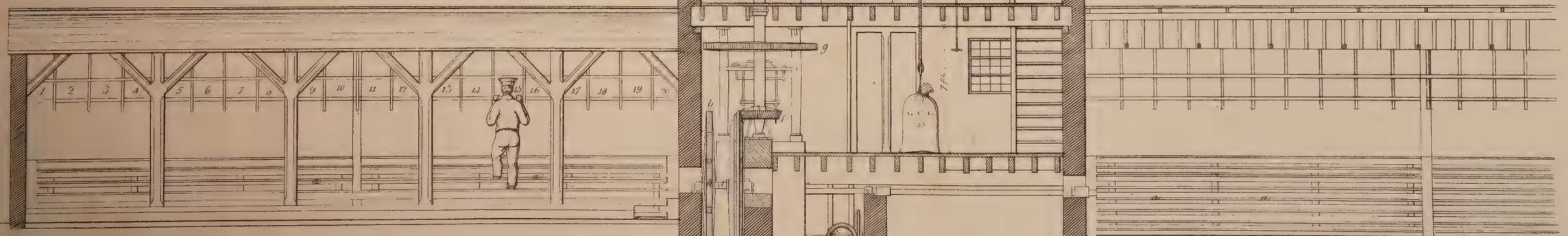
ELEVATIONS AND SECTION OF THE TREADMILL IN THE PENITENTIARY HOUSE OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY PRISON.



Transverse Section from 3 to 4. through working Sheds



r. The Fly used to weight the Wheel when there is no corn to grind
s. The Balls which regulate the motions of the Wheel
t. The Fans which close when the Fly revolves too quickly



Longitudinal Elevation of working Sheds

Longitudinal Section through Centre Building and Working Sheds from 1 to 2 on general Plan

Thomas Fulljames. Architect & County Surveyor Gloucester. 1835.

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